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JAMADI AL THANI 3, 1409 AH

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Morocco, Syria restore relations

RABAT, Jan 9. (Reuters): Morocco and Syria have decided to restore diplomatic ties as a result of mediation by Saudi Arabia, a joint statement said today.

The Moroccan-Syrian statement said the decision was taken "following the fraternal initiative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to eliminate obstacles hindering concerted Arab action to face up to dangers threatening the Arab nation."

Syria severed relations with Morocco in July 1986 in protest at a meeting between King Hassan and the then Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

Readmission
The Moroccan leader has close ties with Egypt and supports its readmission to the Arab League, from which it was suspended in 1979 after signing peace with Israel.

Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz arrived in Morocco last Saturday for what officials described as a private visit after holding two days of talks in Damascus.

The official Saudi news agency SPA said he had discussed in detail with the Syrians the question of readmitting Egypt to the Arab League as well as developments in Morocco, Iraq, Lebanon and Libya.

Prince Abdullah told the agency his visit to Damascus was aimed at pursuing efforts to achieve Arab solidarity and he received full support from Syrian President Hafez Al Assad on all issues discussed.

New Boeing developed engine trouble Jetliner crash in England kills 46

LOUGHBOROUGH, England, Jan 9. (Agencies): A Boeing jetliner skidded off a runway and crashed near one of Britain's busiest motorways killing 46 people, but investigators said today they doubted sabotage brought down the plane.

The new Boeing 737-400, with 118 passengers and eight crew on a flight from London to Belfast in Northern Ireland, crashed last night near the village of Kegworth in central England in Britain's second major airline disaster in a month.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, who flew to the scene and visited survivors at Derby Hospital, was asked whether sabotage was suspected.

Speculation

"We rule out nothing — we simply can't," she said. "There will be a lot of speculation but until we have the facts it is unsafe for me to speculate. The pilot is alive so we have a good chance of finding out what happened."

But the airline, British Midland Airways, said the cause was technical and Transport Minister Paul Channon said there was no evidence of sabotage.

Aviation experts had speculated that sabotage was to blame as was the case when a Pan American Boeing 747 crashed on the Scottish town of Lockerbie on Dec 21, killing 270 people.

"We are satisfied the cause was technical," an airline spokesman said.

The British Midland Boeing crashed on a grassy embankment alongside the main M1 north-south motorway as it tried to make an emergency landing at East Midlands airport, 90 miles (150 km) north of London. It was just half a mile (one km) short of the runway.

Wreckage
Villagers who ran to the scene found corpses strewn on the roadway and some dazed passengers climbing out of the wreckage unaided.

Rescuers struggled until near dawn today to free remaining survivors, some of whom were critically injured, from the wreck of the plane.

Leicestershire police identified the first three victims as two Britons and Australian Darren James Mitchell, 20, from Melbourne.

Firefighters pumped foam onto the crumpled jet today to prevent seeping aviation fuel from catching fire, and 100 military and civilian searchers fanned out over a wide area to hunt for wreckage. The airport is about 100 miles (160 kilometres) north of London.

Investigators recovered the black box flight recorders from the wreckage, hoping they shed light on what caused the crash.

Scene
Channon said at the scene that the pilot had trouble with both engines of the 737-400, which was delivered to British Midland only three months ago.

"My accident investigators say that, so far, the evidence is consistent with the right engine having stopped before impact and also signs of fire in the left engine," he told reporters.

William Trench, retired head of Britain's air accident investigation board, said the odds against both engines failing on a Boeing 737 were 10 million to one.

Exchanges between the Boeing's pilot, captain Kevin Hunt, who survived the crash, and air-traffic controllers were monitored by amateur radio operator Mervyn Solloway. He said he suddenly heard a frantic message saying: "We've got problems with the other engine."

British Midland chairman Michael Bishop said the pilot had radioed he was experiencing "severe vibrations" in one engine. Bishop said the pilot subsequently "undershot the landing."

After the impact, there were seconds of silence and then people began screaming.

Hunt and his co-pilot survived in the cockpit but there was carnage in the cabin area immediately behind. Joe Weston-Webb, a local man, said: "The seats had all gone forward and the people had all been shunted together... all of them seemed to have smashed ankles and legs."

Survivors said they saw flames coming from one of the engines as cabin staff hastily gathered meal trays and secured baggage lockers.

Belfast doctor John McCrea, (Continued on Page 2)

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Belfast doctor John McCrea, (Continued on Page 2)



Firemen clean up debris around the broken remains of the Midland Boeing 737. (Reuters wirephoto)

Israel submits 6-point Mideast peace plan to US

ABU DHABI, Jan 9. (Agencies): Israel has submitted a six-point Mideast peace plan to Washington accepting United States and Soviet participation in a Middle East peace conference, the state-run Al Itihad newspaper reported today.

"The plan shows that Israel is ready to have the Arab-Israeli negotiations under the patronage of the United States and the Soviet Union," the paper said.

Quoting unidentified Egyptian diplomatic sources, the paper said the Israeli plan was presented to US President-elect George Bush, with a copy delivered to Egypt.

Israel has been rejecting an international conference and opposes Soviet involvement as long as Moscow has no diplomatic relations with Israel.

Designed

The PLO and Arab states have been demanding an international conference on the Middle East, with the participation of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, Britain, China, France, the Soviet Union and the United States.

Al Itihad said the Israeli plan was designed to counter the recent diplomatic victories scored by Yasser Arafat, the chairman of the PLO.

The newspaper quoted a senior Palestinian official, in a separate report, as saying that the establishment of a provisional Palestinian government will be discussed at a leadership meeting later this month.

It quoted Abbas Zaki, the director-general of the national and international relations department of Fatah, the largest group in the PLO, as saying that the meeting was expected to approve relevant documents drafted by a special committee.

"These documents, once approved, will allow the PLO to move forward toward drafting the provisional government for-

mula and preparing for the international conference on the Middle East," Zaki was quoted as saying.

Zaki also said that 93 states have so far recognised the independent Palestinian state proclaimed by the Palestine National Council in November, compared to 92 states that recognise Israel, the paper reported.

Arafat said yesterday unlimited US support for Israel had only spoiled its "naughty baby" and encouraged the Jewish state to reject his peace proposals.

And Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said in an interview that he believed the United States would soon realize Arafat's promises were "only talk" and would break off contacts with the PLO.

In an interview in Sana'a, PLO Ambassador Jamal Abd-Raouf Arafat, brother of Yasser Arafat, told Reuters: "We are not terrorists, we don't want anything to do with terrorism. We are struggling for what is legitimately ours."

The Netherlands today opened a formal dialogue in Tunis with the PLO, which said it hoped for a Dutch contribution to Middle East peace.

Role
"(We expect) Holland to play its role through the European Economic Community to achieve progress towards peace," PLO political department head Farouk Kaddumi said after meeting Henry Wijnand, director of political affairs at the Dutch Foreign Ministry.

Indonesia will allow the PLO to open an embassy in Jakarta, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said yesterday.

"An embassy would be the logical consequence of having diplomatic relations with the state of Palestine," Alatas said in a television interview.



Sheikh Sabah

Condemn Israel, urges Kuwait

PARIS, Jan 9. (Agencies): Kuwait called on the international community to condemn Israel for using prohibited weapons against Palestinians and Arab people.

Addressing the international conference on chemical weapons, Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad said: "Israel has used chemical weapons to crush the heroic revolt of the Palestinian people."

"Kuwait calls on the international community to condemn Israel for its use of toxic gases against the citizens of the West Bank and Gaza that has led to many cases of intoxication, abortion and death by asphyxiation."

Sheikh Sabah said Israel had never been condemned or accused by any of those who hasten to condemn when one of the Arab countries is concerned.

Weapons
He said Israel does not only produce, stockpile and develop weapons and toxic gases in the Middle East but it is also co-operating in this field with the apartheid regime in South Africa.

He told the conference in Paris: "Kuwait, which does not have any chemical weapons, confirms its adherence to the 1925 Geneva Protocol and to all other conventions and treaties and approves the necessity to achieve a world-wide adherence to this protocol and to other related international conventions aiming at strengthening confidence and consolidating security on both the international and regional levels."

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, leaving the conference, said today the United States had provided no proof Libya is constructing a chemical arms plant.

Shevardnadze was quoted as saying he told US Secretary of State George Shultz at a meeting yesterday that the most important thing was to try and defuse the tension in the Mediterranean sparked by the US downing of two Libyan MIG fighters.

Prove
"The secretary of state showed me the construction plans (of the Libyan plant), but that proves nothing," Shevardnadze said at Orly airport.

Libya's foreign minister said yesterday his country "has decided on its own free will" not to make chemical weapons and would accept an international accord banning their production.

Foreign Minister Jadalallah Azzouz Talhi said Libya would sign an agreement limiting their production to come out of the gathering.

Libya has denied US allegations that it is building a chemical weapons plant in Rabta, 35 miles (56 km) southwest of Tripoli.

Shultz said yesterday that the main obstacle to chemical disarmament is the working out of detailed procedure of verification of the compliance.

Thieves crack safe company's safe
ROME, Jan 9. (AP): Thieves broke into the offices of a company that makes safes and bullet-proof doors and stole \$25,000 worth of cash. The Italian news agency ANSA reported today.

The burglars last night forced open the armour-plated door of the company, located in a northern Rome suburb, and used a blow torch to open up the safe where the cash was stored, the agency said.

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آن کے بارے میں

○ برطانیہ میں ایک اور مسافر طیارہ گر کر تباہ ہو گیا

○ افغان مجاہدین نے سوویت یونین سے واکرات منقطع کر دیے

○ جوتی لبنان میں خریف لیبیاء گروپوں میں خبین تقادم شدت اختیار کر گیا

○ ملک اسلامی تبادی پر کیت کا باکتر توشیوں

○ مقبوضہ علاقہ میں عام ہڑتال اور مظاہرین پر اسرائیلی فوجی فائرنگ

○ جہاز فیاض الحق نے صدر پر دباؤ ڈالا تھا "لاہور ہائی کورٹ کے سابق چیف جسٹس کا انکشاف"

WEATHER

CLOUDY to partly cloudy weather with moderate south-easterly wind will freshen at times and a chance for scattered rain.

State of sea: moderate to rough

High water: 2.30 pm

Low water: 8.00 am, 7.55 pm

Sunrise: 6.44 am

Sunset: 5.07 pm

Maximum temperatures recorded:

Kuwait: 16°C 61°F

Ahmad: 16°C 61°F

Falaka: 15°C 59°F

Minimum temperatures recorded:

Kuwait: 4°C 39°F

Ahmad: 5°C 41°F

Falaka: 5°C 41°F

Maximum temperatures expected:

Kuwait: 17°C 64°F

Ahmad: 16°C 61°F

Falaka: 15°C 59°F

Maximum humidity recorded:

Kuwait: 74 per cent

Ahmad: 84 per cent

Falaka: 89 per cent

Global AIDS cases rise 40pc in 1988

GENEVA, Jan 9, (UPI): Global reported cases of AIDS rose 40 per cent in 1988 to reach 132,976 at the end of the year, World Health Organisation (WHO) figures showed today.

The United States accounted for 60.6 per cent of the world total with 80,538 cases.

WHO officials said at least one-half of all cases — cumulative since 1979 — have so far resulted in death.

They also said the actual global total is an estimated two to 2-1/2 times higher because the Third World and Africa especially is slow in reporting and also lacks adequate facilities to diagnose the disease.

While the United States was as up to date as Dec 14, second-placed Uganda's report of 5,508 cases dated back to Aug 1 and WHO officials said the actual total in that country was certainly much higher at year's end.

Highest

France had the third highest incidence of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) with 4,874 cases reported as of Sept 30.

Brazil followed in fourth place with 4,436 cases as of Oct 1.

Tanzania was fifth with 3,055 but last reported only on July 31.

Kenya with 2,732 cases and Malawi with 2,586 were sixth and seventh but their last reports dated back to June 30.

West Germany, Italy and Canada had the 8th, 9th and 10th highest number of known cases with 2,580, 2,556 and 2,181 respectively.

The Dec 31 total of 132,976 reported cases represented an increase of 37,680 or 39.54 per cent to be precise over the end — 1987 figure of 95,296.

Despite the size of the increase it was still lower than the jump of 43,271 cases or 83.1 per cent during 1987 against 1986.

Recent large month-to-month and year-to-year increases are explained by WHO assistance to African and other Third World countries in diagnosing and reporting AIDS.

For instance, the United States once accounted for more than 70 per cent of the world total but the proportion steadily dropped with the spread of AIDS and improved reporting by developing countries.

WHO said the large majority of AIDS is among drug addicts using infected needles and among homosexuals or both.

The Dec 31 total of 132,976 meant a rise during the last month of 1988 of 2.78 per cent or 3,591 cases over November.

Totals at year's end by WHO region and with the most affected countries were: ● Africa: 20,905 cases (Burundi 1,408, Congo 1,250, Kenya 2,732, Malawi 2,586, Rwanda 987, Uganda 5,508, Tanzania 3,055, Zambia 1,056).

● Americas: 93,723 cases (Brazil 4,436, Canada 2,181, Colombia 308, Dominican Republic 566, Haiti 1,661, Mexico 1,642, Trinidad and Tobago 336, United States 80,538, Venezuela 263).

● Asia: 285 cases (Israel 67, Japan 90, Philippines 17, Qatar 21).

● Europe: 16,883 cases (Austria 220, Belgium 408, Denmark 345, Finland 37, France 4,874, West Germany 2,580, Greece 151, Italy 2,556, Netherlands 676, Norway 95, Portugal 181, Spain 1,850, Sweden 235, Switzerland 605, United Kingdom 1,862).

● Oceania: 1,180 cases (Australia 1,079, French Polynesia 1, New Zealand 93, Papua New Guinea 6, Tonga 1).

WHO said a total 143 countries reported one or more cases of AIDS with the other 34 of its total 177 member states saying they are still free of the disease.

Arab League to meet over Libyan crisis

TUNIS, Jan 9, (Reuters): Arab foreign ministers will hold an emergency meeting on Wednesday to rally support for beleaguered Libyan leader Muammar Khaddafi and try to plot a way out of Lebanon's political quagmire.

The 22-member Arab League is likely to have more success with the first objective than the second.

A senior Muslim politician in Beirut said an open clash between long-time foes Syria and Iraq, which are lined up behind rival governments in Lebanon, was quite possible.

Syria, the traditional power broker in Lebanon where it has 25,000 troops, wants far-reaching changes giving more power to the majority Muslims. Iraq has supplied arms to Christian militias opposed to such a move.

Castigated

Arab capitals have castigated Washington for shooting down two Libyan MIGs last Wednesday in what Tripoli said was the prelude to a full-scale attack. The United States said its pilots acted in self-defence.

"The foreign ministers' conference is to support Libya against this unjustified American provocation and condemn American aggression," PLO spokesman Ahmed Abdul Rahman said.

Washington said the attack over the Mediterranean was unconnected with a campaign against a chemical weapons plant it says Libya is building. It has not ruled out bombing the factory, which Tripoli says will produce medicine.

On Sunday, Algerian Foreign Minister Boualem Bessaïeh accused the United States of failing to listen to reason.

"Threats without any basis have been made against Libya. Algeria has considered and still considers these threats unacceptable," he told a 140-nation conference in Paris on chemical weapons.

Arab nations say they cannot be expected to renounce any

weapon while, they maintain, Israel has the atom bomb.

The Arab League meeting will echo the line spelled out in Paris by Arab delegates, who warned the big powers that chemical weapons could not be eradicated without parallel action on nuclear arsenals.

"We must recognise that there is a link between chemical arms and nuclear arms and take effective action to eliminate these two sources," Tunisian Foreign Minister Abdelhamid Escheikh said.

Washington has rejected Libyan offers to allow international inspection of the plant at Rabta. It says the purpose of the factory could easily be disguised.

Why didn't the United States ask to inspect Dimona? Abdul Rahman said in a reference to a plant in Israel which Arabs say can make nuclear weapons.

Analysts are not optimistic that the meeting will find a way to prevent partition in Lebanon, which has two governments — an Iraqi-backed Christian administration led by Army commander Michel Aoun and the Syrian-supported Muslim cabinet of acting Prime Minister Selim Hoss.

Political sources said they expect foreign ministers to form a committee to report on the best way out of the crisis. The rival camps have sent widely differing messages to the League.

Aoun said talks should concentrate on the withdrawal of foreign forces, both Israeli and Syrian. Hoss has stressed the need for Arab unity in the face of "Israeli aggression."

"I think the Syrians should stop their intervention and let the Lebanese choose their President and government freely. The Israeli intervention is also damaging everything. The US should press Israel to withdraw from South Lebanon," said Abdul Rahman.

Asked if an Arab peacekeeping force should replace the Syrians, he replied: "Yes, why not for a short period?"

Akihito pledges to defend Japan's post-war constitution

TOKYO, Jan 9, (UPI): Emperor Akihito, who succeeded the late Hirohito as Japan's figurehead ruler, set the tone for a new, more liberal imperial era today, telling the nation he will defend the post-war constitution.

"I pledge myself to continue in the spirit of his late majesty — joining together with you to preserve the constitution of Japan," said Akihito, 55, who ascended to the throne on Saturday when his 87-year-old father, Hirohito, died of intestinal cancer.

Akihito mentioned Japan's "peace" constitution twice in his three minute speech, indicating his support for the document imposed on Japan during the Allied occupation and currently under fire from rightists who want to revise it.

Akihito, in black tails and grey trousers, delivered the imperial rescript in a nationally televised ceremony from the Imperial Palace's stately pine room.

Akihito stressed Japan's international responsibilities, expected to be a theme of his rule.

Suicide

"I do fervently desire the further development of Japan, peace on earth, and enhanced well-being for all peoples," Akihito said.

The speech was the second in a series of formal ceremonies leading up to Hirohito's funeral on Feb 24.

The nation continued to

and removed Shintoism as the state religion.

Conservatives, including many members of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, have called for a revision of the constitution.

Akihito is viewed as a liberal who supports the constitution, but the emperor's influence on policy is minimal.

Danger

"No matter what the new emperor says as a person we have to see the danger in what the Liberal Democratic Party is trying to do," said Zensai Matsumoto, a Member of Parliament from the Communist Party.

"In the Liberal Democratic Party's draft of a revised constitution they call for the establishment of the emperor as the head of state. They are trying to extend his power," he said.

Communist and Socialist Party members invited to Akihito's speech boycotted it in part because of their opposition to the imperial system.

Most scholars, however, view Akihito as the man most likely to give a new open form to Japan's imperial system.

"The statement of the new emperor was coloured with his majesty's new way of thinking," said Toshiaki Kawahara, author of 12 books on the history of Japan's emperors.

Akihito is a symbol of new-born Japan.



Akihito

mourn Hirohito with thousands of people flocking to the palace to sign a book of condolence.

An 81-year-old man hanged himself from his kitchen door today, becoming the third elderly man to commit suicide to follow Emperor Hirohito in death.

The three men were practicing the ancient tradition of "junshi," or following one's lord to the grave.

Hirohito was officially considered a living god when he became emperor in 1926.

The postwar constitution reduced the emperor's role from a god-like status to a mere symbol of state, making Akihito as the first Japanese emperor to ascend the throne as a mortal.

The constitution also renounced Japan's right to wage war

Opposition wants to annul victory of Premadasa

Bandaranaike files election petition

COLOMBO, Jan 9, (Reuters): Sri Lankan opposition leader Sirima Bandaranaike, who lost last month's presidential poll, today filed a petition in the Supreme Court seeking to annul the victory of Ranasinghe Premadasa.

Bandaranaike, leader of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party, cited general intimidation, non-compliance with election laws and failure by election officials to conduct a fair and free poll as reasons for declaring void the result of the election.

Premadasa, the incumbent prime minister, won the Dec 19 poll with 50.43 per cent of the votes against Bandaranaike's 44.95 per cent.

Voting was marred by killings of two senior election officials and supporters of political parties and attacks on polling centres.

Threatened

Officials said only 55 per cent of the 9.4 million voters cast their ballots because the Marxist People's Liberation Front had threatened to kill those who voted.

There has been a voter turnout of more than 75 per cent at previous elections, they said.

Police blamed the polling day attacks on the front, a southern-based group of young radical

Sinhalese trying to overthrow the government.

Bandaranaike, who is also contesting February 15 parliamentary election, said in a 38-page petition that a majority of voters were or may have been prevented from electing the candidate they preferred.

Her petition gave details of nearly 100 instances of alleged violations of election laws.

No date has been set for the inquiry.

The opposition leader said before the election that Premadasa would benefit from a low poll, particularly in the south where Bandaranaike enjoys wide support.

China asked to free Ghanaian student

BEIJING, Jan 9, (AP): The acting head of the Ghana embassy called on China today to release a Ghanaian student arrested in Nanking in connection with a Christmas Eve brawl.

"We are not satisfied 'the case has not been handled properly,'" said Kwadwo Kwakye. "We want (him) to be released."

Alex Dossoo of Ghana, a student at Hehai University in the eastern city of Nanking, was arrested Dec 31 and charged with beating and seriously injuring a Hehai employee.

Police gave two other African students — one from Gambia and one from Benin — 15 days "disciplinary detention" as punishment for allegedly having "tried to stir up trouble" during the Christmas Eve fight.

Refused

The clash between African students and Chinese school workers and students began when the Africans refused to register Chinese women they were escorting to a Hehai dance. It triggered nearly a week of street protests by Chinese who called the Africans "black devils" and demanded they be punished.

Kwakye said the fight "happened on a campus and should have been handled by the university and not handed over to the police." He said he did not think Dossoo should face criminal charges.

He said authorities had not told the embassy what the formal charge was or what punishment Dossoo might face if convicted.

Kwakye was among 11 diplomats from various African countries who went to Nanking over the week-end and met with Chinese authorities and African students there.

Meanwhile a Ugandan medical student has committed suicide by jumping from his dormitory at a south China university, the official New China News Agency said today.

US court asked to rule on legality of executing mentally retarded people

HUNTSVILLE, Texas, Jan 9, (AP): A convicted murderer with the mind of a 7-year-old who has been sentenced to death has asked the US Supreme Court to rule on the legality of executing mentally retarded people.

The high court on Wednesday is scheduled to hear arguments on whether executing Johnny Paul Penry for a 1979 rape-slaying would be "cruel and unusual punishment" banned by the US constitution.

A federal appeals court previously rejected Penry's arguments.

Served

Penry, 32, has an IQ estimated at between 50 and 60 — about 40 points below the average. His schooling consists of a few days in the first grade, and he was in and out of mental hospitals while growing up near Houston.

"I was abused — treated like a dog. My mother broke my arm about eight times. My left arm is three inches (7.5 centimetres) shorter than my right," Penry said in an interview last summer.

Convicted of rape in 1977, he served two years of a five-year prison term. Three months after his release, he was charged with the brutal rape and murder of Pamela Mosely Carpenter.

Penry's case is the second within a year to result in Supreme Court review of the Texas state capital punishment law, which since 1974 has sent nearly 300 men and women to death row. Since 1976, when the high court allowed capital punishment to resume, 29 men have been put to death in Texas — more executions than in any other state.

Nationwide, 11 people were executed last year. A dozen of the 50 US states have put criminals to death since 1976, and many others have the death penalty in their state books but have made no use of it in the last two decades.

Retardation

The court will be asked to consider whether jurors should have considered Penry's retardation before deciding to impose a death sentence and whether anyone with Penry's mental capacity ever should get the death penalty, said Penry's attorney, Curtis Mason.

A court ruling that people with Penry's mental capacity should not be executed could have major, nationwide impact, according to Bob Walt, an assistant Texas attorney-general who handles capital cases.

"You can always find psychiatrists who come in and say this person is mentally retarded," Walt said.

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Siddhi in Hanoi talks

HANOI, Vietnam, Jan 9, (AP): The foreign ministers of Vietnam and Thailand conferred today on ending Vietnam's decade-long occupation of Kampuchea and on resuscitating a co-operation agreement.

Thai Foreign Minister Siddhi Savetsilva arrived in Hanoi earlier in the day for the first session of two-day talks with Vietnamese Foreign Minister and Deputy Premier Nguyen Co Thach.

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Dinner with the artists will be held at the Indian Arts Circle (Tel. 3904817) on 12th Jan.

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• Athari Video, Farwaniya 4712900 • Al Behar Video, Salmiya 5615730,
• Falcon Video (Near Caesar's Conf., Abbassiya) • Shahani Video, Abbassiya 4317290,
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** Dinner tickets will be sold until 10th January only.*

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شيراتون الكويت
Kuwait Sheraton Hotel
The hospitality people of IPT

Jetliner crash in England ...

(Continued from Page 1)

who was flying with his wife Josephine, said: "The captain came on the public address system and told us to prepare for an emergency landing. It seemed like only five seconds later we were down. The lights were out and we seemed stuck at an angle of 45 degrees."

Survivor Oliver Keegan, 65, said: "I don't remember much about the crash other than a sharp descent and the calm voices of the crew trying to reassure."

He escaped with a bruised leg and said: "I must be the luckiest man in the world."

Thick fog

MILAN, Jan 9, (Reuters): Several Italian airports remained closed today because of thick fog which settled over much of northern Italy during the weekend.

Fights to Milan's Linate and Malpensa airports and to Venice, Bologna, Verona and Turin were diverted where possible to Bergamo and Genoa, airlines said.



Christian clergymen and Druze chief Walid Jumblatt after a meeting in Beitdine where they discussed the return of 200,000 Christian refugees to the Shouf Mountains.

Fierce fighting for control of S. Lebanon villages

Rival Shiites resume battle

SIDON, Jan 9 (AP): Rival Shiite Muslim factions fought savage house-to-house battles for control of strategic villages in south Lebanon today and police reported "horrific massacres."

Authorities said at least 25 people were killed and more than 40 wounded after the pro-Syrian Amal militia launched a dawn counter-attack against the Iranian-backed Hezbollah, which overran five villages Sunday in fierce fighting.

The casualties raised the overall toll in fighting that erupted Dec 31 to 90 killed and 200 wounded, by police count.

Sixty-five people have been slain since Sunday morning. That was the highest 24-hour toll since the power struggle for mastery of Lebanon's one million Shiites, the country's largest sect, flared in April.

Amal claimed its fighters recaptured four of the villages strung along the main road from Sidon, 40 kilometres south of Beirut, to Israel's self-designated

"security zone" on Lebanon's southern border.

But police in Sidon, provincial capital of south Lebanon, said they could not confirm Amal's claims.

"Fierce fighting is under way and horrific massacres have been committed," said a police spokesman.

"Many victims have been hacked to death. Others had their throats cut and some were headless. Many were riddled with bullets," he said.

Blame

Amal and Hezbollah accused each other of "atrocities and summary executions" in the fighting for Kfar Hatta, Kfar Melki, Kfar Beit, Kfar Filla and Jbaa.

An Amal communiqué said a force of 500 militiamen recaptured the first four villages from Hezbollah and reported: "Our men are now fighting the enemies of Islam from house to house in the streets of Jbaa."

Hezbollah said in a communiqué: "These are empty claims invented by Amal to boost the sagging morale of its mercenaries."

Iran and Syria have been trying to rein in their feuding Lebanese proxies.

But the fighting has raged unabated despite appeals from Iranian President Ali Khamenei and his Syrian counterpart, Hafez Al Assad.

Both factions also ignored an offer by the Palestine Liberation Organisation Sunday to deploy its guerrillas to separate the combatants.

Police said Amal and Hezbollah gunners were locked in artillery duels around the nearby villages of Ain Boswar, Loweizah and Mount Safi on the northern fringe of Israel's buffer zone.

In the ancient port of Tyre, south of Sidon, police said Amal militiamen rounded up 150 Hezbollah partisans in overnight house raids in the city and several villages around it.

Afghan rebels insist on fall of Kabul regime

'No more talks with Soviets'

ISLAMABAD, Jan 9 (Reuters): Afghan Muslim guerrillas will not hold further talks with the Soviet Union on a future government, rebel leader Sibghatullah Mojaddidi said today.

"There is no need for talks," said Mojaddidi, rejecting an invitation to Moscow by a Soviet minister who met the mujahedeen in Saudi Arabia in December and in Islamabad last Friday.

Threats

The mujahedeen leader, chairman of a seven-party alliance based in Pakistan, told a news conference that the rebels were only prepared to meet Kremlin negotiators after the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan on Feb 15 and the fall of the Moscow-backed Kabul government.

He said any discussions before then had been ruled out because Soviet negotiator Yuri Vorontsov said in public after Friday's talks that Moscow would support the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan

after withdrawal. Mojaddidi said any future talks would have to be about war reparations and the return of prisoners.

"Because the Soviets use threats, look for war rather than peace, and disrespect Afghans' right of self-determination, we believe that negotiations are unproductive and unnecessary," the alliance said in a separate statement.

Vorontsov, who is also ambassador to Afghanistan, has travelled to Saudi Arabia, Italy, Iran and Pakistan during the past month with Moscow's plan to set up a broadly-based Afghan government after the withdrawal.

Moscow insists on a role for President Najibullah's party, an idea rejected by the alliance. The plan would also include a partner for former King Zahir Shah, 74, exiled in Rome since his overthrow in a 1973 coup.

After Friday's meeting, Mojaddidi said another round of talks with the Soviet Union

would take place as "part of a goodwill gesture and to get rid of any ensuing blame for reluctance to take part in peace dialogue."

Today however, Mojaddidi said Vorontsov's remarks at a news conference on Saturday meant there was no need for another round of talks.

No need

"Any solution will be according to the will of the Afghan people, it is not for them or any other country to decide," Mojaddidi told reporters.

He said the Soviets, who intervened in Afghanistan in December 1979, would have to pay for the destruction caused by the war and return mujahedeen prisoners, who the rebels say number 40,000.

In Friday's talks both sides said they supported the idea of establishing a council to govern Afghanistan, but they have different concepts of its composition.

Moscow wants members of the present government included. The guerrillas say only

the Muslim elements are acceptable.

The alliances were also angered by Vorontsov's comment on Saturday that any more killing in the war would be on their conscience because they had not reciprocated Kabul's unilateral ceasefire of Jan 1.

"A ceasefire is not possible because the cause of the war has not been removed, the forced existence of the Russians and the puppet regime," Mojaddidi told the news conference.

He said the mujahedeen had killed many Soviet soldiers, but that the Soviets had killed, captured and tortured many more, including women and children, and forced millions into exile.

"Has all this been forgotten?" asked Mojaddidi.

Mohammad Karim Khalili, representative of the group of eight based in Iran who joined the talks with Vorontsov, told the news conference he would remain in Pakistan this week to discuss the council with other guerrilla leaders.

Fish oil helps heart surgery patients

WASHINGTON, Jan 9 (Reuters): Cardiologists and scientists said that people should not take large doses of fish oil to reduce the risk of heart disease, but should eat fish.

However, Dr Mark Milner of the Washington Hospital Centre reported fish oil can "dramatically improve" the results of coronary angioplasty for heart patients, a technique in which arteries are opened by a balloon inserted surgically.

Speaking to the American Heart Association's 61st scientific sessions, the scientists said the long term effects of taking large amounts of fish oil are unknown and its benefit in preventing heart disease has not been shown.

Dr Virgil Brown, president of Medtronic Research Foundation, recommended Americans eat more ocean fish as a way to reduce harmful fats from meats in their diets.

Milner reported that patients who took large doses of fish oil for six months after undergoing surgery to enlarge their heart arteries had good results in preventing reclosing.

An estimated 184,000 patients underwent this surgery in 1987. It is less serious than coronary bypass surgery, which involves opening the chest cavity to graft a vessel taken from the leg onto the heart to bypass blocked heart arteries.

"They hated taking it," Milner said. Patients said they objected to the fishy aftertaste, gas and stomach discomfort from the oil.

Fish oil is thought to work by stopping the body from producing substances that cause the blood to clot in the heart arteries.

Death sentence

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 9 (AP): The high court has sentenced Yeoh Siew Kheng, 47, to death after he was found guilty of trafficking in 983.6 grams (34.76 ounces) of morphine, the national news agency Bernama reported.

In 1975 the Malaysian parliament passed a law under which drug traffickers are punished by death.

Since then, 199 people have been sentenced to death and of those, 65 have been hanged. The others are awaiting appeals or dates for hanging.

Grenade attack kills 27 at Philippines basketball court

COTABATO, Jan 9 (UPI): Two grenades exploded at a local championship basketball game at an outdoor court packed with about 1,000 spectators, killing 27 people and wounding at least 82, police said.

A Muslim youth who sped away on a motorcycle was arrested soon after the grenades exploded shortly before midnight yesterday at Dukat district in Esperanza, 950 km south of Manila and 80 km southeast of the provincial capital of Cotabato, police said. His identity was withheld.

Authorities had yet to determine a motive for the bombing in the region where Muslim separatists and communist guerrillas operate, but a news report suggested it was sparked by heavy betting in the match pitting the hometown team and a visiting squad from a nearby Davao City.

Most of the 27 killed were children, said Esperanza police sta-

tion chief Florencio Balingag. Many of the 82 wounded were in serious condition, including Esperanza Mayor Romulo Latog and his son, Balingag said.

A member of the Borja team, Romeo Luga, was one of those killed and many other players suffered shrapnel wounds.

People screamed and stormed through the wire fence, of the open-air cement court, Councilman Ricardo Piat said. Police illuminated the court with vehicle headlights and picked up the dead and wounded scattered on the court littered with abandoned slippers and bags.

Many of the injured were hurt in the stampede, Piat said. He said there were about 1,000 people watching the game when the attack took place.

Meanwhile, President Corason Aquino said today the leader of rebel Muslim police who seized a military garrison and killed a general may have

escaped.

A woman also claimed the renegade leader, Patrolman Rizal Ali, held her and eight companions hostage briefly yesterday, one day after troops recaptured the regional headquarters of the Philippine Constabulary. But a military spokesman disputed the woman's claim.

At least 21 people were killed before government troops, backed by helicopter gunships and tanks, recaptured the garrison late Saturday after two days of fighting.

Officials said today they had identified the bodies of Brig. Gen. Eduardo Batalla and Col. Romeo Abandan, who were held hostage during the takeover. Seven others also had been identified, but none was Ali.

"From the facts so far available, the AFP (Armed Forces of the Philippines) is unable to (say) that Ali may be among those casualties," Mrs Aquino told reporters in Manila.

Burmese students hold talks with Army on democracy

BANGKOK, Jan 9 (UPI): Dissident Burmese student leaders have begun talks with the military government in Rangoon on demands for democracy, freedom from repression and the establishment of an interim government, a student leader said today.

"Communications from our colleagues in Rangoon say a preliminary meeting has already been held and the regime agreed to meet the students again this week," said Koko Lay, spokesman for the All Burma Students Democracy Front — an organization of dissident students who fled to jungle camps near the Thai-Burmese border.

The meetings are the first direct negotiations between the regime which seized power on Sept 18 and the students who led a mass movement for democracy.

Koko Lay said the first meeting in Rangoon included 31 student leaders and a "high-ranking" representative of the military regime headed by Gen. Saw Maung.

"In the preliminary discussions the Saw Maung regime re-

sponded only vaguely and evasively to our demands," Koko Lay said.

"In the next discussion it will be time to get clearer answers," he said.

Koko Lay said the students holding the talks with the regime were led by Min Ze Ya, a leading member of the executive committee of the All Burma Students Union, the main organization of students still in areas under government control.

He said the students met on Dec 28 with military officers headed by Brig. Gen. Khin Nyunt, commander of Military Intelligence, at his headquarters in Rangoon.

No date

He said reports received by the students at the Thai border did not give an exact date for the next meeting but said it would be this week.

"They asked the Saw Maung regime to openly announce this discussion by state radio, television and newspapers," Koko Lay said. "The reply was that it was not yet time."

The students demanded assurances of safety for students returning from the jungle and for an unlimited extension of a Jan 31 deadline for the students to return, Koko Lay said.

They also asked for the establishment of an interim government to hold democratic elections.

The military regime has promised to hold "free and fair" elections, but has not set a date for the polls.

More Indians leave Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, Jan 9 (Reuters): A second battalion of Indian troops left Sri Lanka by chartered ships today with more expected to leave soon as peace is restored in areas affected by Tamil guerrilla violence, an Indian official said.

An Indian High Commission spokeswoman said the battalion, of up to 1,200 soldiers, left from the northwestern port of Kankesanthurai and was expected to arrive in Madras on Tuesday.

She said one battalion left last week following a request on Dec 21 by Sri Lanka's new President Ranasinghe Premadasa for the phased withdrawal of the 50,000 Indian troops once peace is restored in northern and eastern areas.

Libya's Foreign Minister, in Paris for the international conference on chemical weapons, said in two news media interviews on Sunday that his country had no plans to manufacture chemical weapons.

"The journalists, unless they are specially qualified, are not experts in determining the nature of the factory and its installations," JANA added.

"Adopting the argument of the existence of guns and weapons in the area surrounding the factory to give it another character falls in line with the desires of some and the reply to it is: In the face of the threats of America to deal a blow to the area, are the masses who are staging a sit-in there not entitled to make available the means to defend the area and to protect themselves?" the dispatch said.

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40 wounded in Chittagong port strike

CHITTAGONG, Jan 9 (Reuters): Fighting among political activists injured at least 40 people during a general strike in Bangladesh's port of Chittagong today.

The six-hour stoppage was called by Moktoddhaha Sangsad, an association of former guerrillas who fought in Bangladesh's war of independence in 1971, to protest against what they called attacks on their Chittagong office by supporters of the fundamentalist Jamaat-e-Islami party.

Police said the rival groups attacked each other with homemade bombs, knives and stones in clashes that forced shops to shut and vehicles off the streets. No one was arrested.

Police said attacks on the Moktoddhaha office on Saturday followed a six-hour stoppage that day called by opposition Awami League students trying to stop Jamaat leader Delwar Hossain Sadi speaking at public rallies.

Chittagong officials said today they had granted permission for Sadi to speak at a religious rally this evening.

"We don't want to prevent him (from speaking) unless he triggers any political controversy or threatens to disrupt law and order," one police officer said.

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S. Korean radicals attack US base

SEOUL, Jan 9 (AP): A US soldier was injured today when a group of protesters hurled firebombs at a US military base in the southern city of Taegu, police and US authorities said.

A US military spokesman said the attackers hurled seven firebombs at Camp Henry, 300 kilometres south of Seoul.

A US soldier was slightly injured when a firebomb was hurled through the windshield of the jeep he was driving, the spokesman said. The firebomb did not explode, but the soldier was cut by flying glass, he said.

Demand

US authorities said they did not know why the base was attacked, but the camp and other American bases in South Korea have been attacked in recent months by radical students demanding the withdrawal of US troops.

Police said the attack today involved five or six youths who identified themselves as "patriotic students in Taegu" in the leaflets they scattered. Police reported no arrests.

Police said the leaflets contained criticism of the recent US downing of two Libyan fighters in the Mediterranean Sea.

It was the second attack on Camp Henry in a month. Radical

students chanting and US soldiers firedbombed the camp on Dec 27, causing a small fire at a building. The fire was quickly extinguished with no injuries.

Meanwhile, opposition leader Kim Young-Sam said today President Roh Tae-Woo must remove and put on trial senior officials who played key roles in the authoritarian government of former President Chun Doo-Hwan.

Kim, leader of the Reunification Democratic Party, said South Korea would face renewed political instability if the government failed to expose and bring to justice all those involved in corruption and human rights abuses under Chun.

"We need stability. Stability can only be realised through liquidation of past misdeeds," Kim said in an interview with the Associated Press.

The opposition leader also said Roh must keep a promise to hold a referendum giving voters the chance to evaluate his performance. Roh made the promise just before the December 1987 presidential elections.

"This is the promise he made to the people," Kim said.

Kim said the nation would not wait indefinitely for a referendum, but he declined to set time limits for holding the measure.

Uprising enters 14th month

Strike paralyses W. Bank and Gaza

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan 9 (Reuters): Palestinians of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip staged a general strike today to mark the 14th month of an uprising against Israeli military rule.

The stoppage by workers among the 1.7 million Palestinian residents marking the start of the 14th month of the uprising began on Dec 9, 1987, halted transport and closed shops.

Both the unified command of the uprising and its rival Islamic resistance movement, Hamas, called the new strike a day after Palestinians stayed away from work to commemorate those who have been killed in the violence.

At least 357 Palestinians and 14 Israelis have died in the revolt that erupted in the Gaza Strip and quickly spread to the West Bank.

Molotov cocktails were thrown overnight in Jerusalem's Gilo neighbourhood at the northern West Bank Jewish settlement of Givat Shimon and at a settler's car in Hebron, the Army and Palestinians reported.

The car was set ablaze and

Palestinians said the man got out and opened fire but no one was hurt. No damage was reported from the other attacks.

Fresh demonstrations erupted in Hebron today with youths throwing stones and erecting roadblocks, Palestinians said.

At least 18 protesters were wounded in clashes with Israeli troops yesterday, Palestinian and hospital sources said.

Hundreds of villagers gathered to bury a Palestinian man stabbed to death on Friday night in Qubayba village north-west of Jerusalem.

Underground leaders of the uprising condemned the stabbing, which residents said occurred when a fight broke out between the villager and masked youths.

The underground leadership of the uprising frequently has called for attacks on Palestinians suspected of working for Israeli security forces. More than a dozen Palestinians suspected of collaborating with Israel have been killed since the uprising began on Dec 9, 1987.

The strike came as Israeli authorities began restoring inter-

national telephone service to the West Bank. The service was cut on March 16 to prevent Palestinian residents from making overseas calls.

Lieut. Olivier Rafowicz, a spokesman for the civil administration, said international service would be completely connected in "a small number of days."

The civil administration, which governs the territory for the military, had been sharply criticised for its decision to sever international service to the territory. The Palestinian human rights group Al Haq had called it another attempt to make Palestinian life "intolerable."

Rafowicz said the civil administration did not bow to international pressure to restore the phone lines but "decided according to internal considerations." He refused to elaborate.

West Bank businessmen asked the civil administration several weeks ago to reconnect their international phone links for their businesses. Rafowicz said. The request was granted for recovery before Sunday's start of reconnection for all residents, he

said. Meanwhile, an explosion shook a pornography shop in the city's downtown shopping district yesterday shortly after an ultra-orthodox man was seen entering the store, fuelling speculation that religious Jewish extremists were responsible, Israel Radio said.

No injuries were reported in the explosion, which occurred at one of two pornography shops in the downtown Clal building, police and Army Radio announced. A hand grenade apparently was used in the attack and one person was detained, the radio reported.

Yossi Tugerman, a worker at a pornography shop next to the one where the explosion occurred, told Army Radio that a bearded man wearing a yarmulke, the head covering of religiously observant Jews, entered his shop shortly before the blast.

"(He) saw a lot of people inside the shop so he simply went out and went to the second shop," Tugerman said. "After 30 seconds, we heard an explosion in the shop."

Shevardnadze to visit China next month

MOSCOW, Jan 9 (Reuters): Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze will visit China in February to help prepare for a Sino-Soviet summit, Tass news agency said.

Agreement on the visit was reached during a Sunday meeting between Shevardnadze and Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen in Paris where they are attending an international conference on chemical weapons.

"Both sides view this visit as an important stage of preparation for a Soviet-Chinese summit," Tass said. It did not give a date for Shevardnadze's trip to Beijing.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev is expected to visit Beijing later this year for the first Sino-Soviet summit in three decades.

Ties between Moscow and Beijing have been strained since the early 1960s by disputes over ideology and foreign policy but recently both sides have sought to normalise relations.

Qian had talks in Moscow last month with Shevardnadze when he invited the Soviet Foreign Minister to visit Beijing.

Libya raps Western reports on visit to plant site

TRIPOLI, Jan 9 (AP): Libya's official news agency today criticised foreign journalists who reported there were weapons around the desert factory that the United States alleges is a chemical weapons plant.

About 100 journalists were expelled from Libya on Sunday. About 30 other reporters, who had managed to elude government officials who had ordered them out, were told late Sunday they had to depart today.

Foreign journalists poured into the country last week

KUNA book on Amir

KUWAIT, Jan 9, (KUNA): The Information and Research Department of Kuwait News Agency has published a book on the visits made by His Highness the Amir to various countries in his capacity as the President of the Fifth Session of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC). HH the Amir's visit to France, the United States and the historic speech he delivered at the UN General Assembly, on September 28, 1988, has been documented.

Diwan announcement

KUWAIT, Jan 9, (KUNA): Amir Diwan announced today the death of Sheikh Munira Sabah Al Nasir Al Sabah, widow of late Sheikh Khalid Al Abdullah Al Salim Al Sabah, who passed away at the age of 55. Her burial took place at 4 pm. Condolences will be accepted at the Diwan of late Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al Nasser Al Sabah in Sal-miyah.

2 drown, 4 missing in Bahrain storm

BAHRAIN, Jan 9, (Reuters): Two Bahraini fishermen drowned and four were missing after the storm wrecked their boats in the Gulf. Coast Guards said today. They said two bodies were found inside a fibreglass boat on a coral reef five miles offshore. Helicopters and patrol boats were searching for a third person from the vessel.

Three other fishermen missing since December 29 have been presumed dead after their boat washed ashore in Qatar last week, the Coast Guards said.

Osaimi meets Khaderi, Wilson

KUWAIT, Jan 9, (KUNA): State Minister for Foreign Affairs Saud Al Osaimeh today received Algerian Ambassador to Kuwait Mohammed Khaderi and discussed bilateral ties and developments in the Arab world. Al Osaimeh also received visiting US Congressman Charles Wilson, who is currently on a tour of a number of countries in the region.

An authoritative source at the Foreign Ministry told KUNA that discussions during the meeting centred on bilateral relations and developments in the Arabian Gulf and the Palestinian cause.

Jassar leaves for Islamic meeting

KUWAIT, Jan 9, (KUNA): Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Khalid Ahmed Al Jassar left here today for Baghdad to attend the Third General Conference for the Higher Council of Islamic Affairs that is due to convene in Baghdad tomorrow.

The delegation accompanying the minister includes the supervisor of Islamic Affairs at the ministry Bader Al Mutairi and Director of the Minister's office Faisal Ghattas.

REQUIRED SECRETARY

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OBITUARY

Mrs. Hilarion Sabina D'Souza
Expired on 10.12.1988 in Bombay.
Requiem Mass at Holy Family Cathedral.
Offered by her son & daughter-in-law Everest/Theresa, daughter & son-in-law Ebel/John and grand children Adam, Errol & Tracey.



Kuwait's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Saud Al Osaimeh signing the condolence book at the residence of the Japanese ambassador. The condolence book was opened on Saturday. A large number of Kuwaiti officials and foreign diplomats signed the book.

Battash thanks Amir for Palestinian Embassy

KUWAIT, Jan 9, (KUNA): Director of the Palestine Liberation Organisation Bureau here Awni Battash expressed thanks and appreciation over Kuwait's support to the struggle of the Palestinian people, who are striving to liberate their land and achieve their national goals.

In a press statement issued here today Battash said that the decision of HH the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah to present a plot of land to the Palestinian people, to build the Palestine Embassy and to upgrade the PLO's diplomatic representation to the level of embassy, comes as a continuation of Kuwait's firm support toward the Palestinian cause.

Battash said that the Palestinian people here will celebrate this occasion with the PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, who will lay down the cornerstone of the building. The embassy will be built at the expense of the Kuwait government.

The PLO official praised relations between Palestine and Kuwait noting that His Highness the Amir's decision gives new impetus to the Palestinian people to intensify their struggle to

achieve victory and practice their rights on their soil.

Deputy Speaker of the Palestine National Council Salim Al Zannoun also hailed HH the Amir's decision to grant an embassy site for the Palestinian State.

Abu Adib said that the decision reflected Kuwait's firm and permanent support for the Palestinian people. Abu Adib said that "the Palestinian people will always value the gift of HH the Amir and the Kuwaiti people."

The new premises will be in the diplomatic enclave on Istiqlal Street.

Kuwait is the eighth nation in the 22-member Arab League to

elevate a PLO office to an embassy. Meanwhile, Foreign Ministry Undersecretary Sulaiman Majed Al Shahin today received Deputy Speaker of the National Palestine Council, Salim Al Zannoun and Director of the Palestine Liberation Organisation Office in Kuwait, Awni Battash.

The Palestinian officials conveyed to Shahin the appreciation of the Palestinian leadership for the gift of land by His Highness The Amir.

10 years and KD140,000 fine for passing liquor

A MAN, M, was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment and fined KD140,000 by the Court of Appeal, according to a local daily.

The accused, a customs inspector, was convicted for accepting a bribe and allowing a large quantity of liquor to pass through customs. He was acquitted by the Criminal Court, but convicted by the Court of Appeal when witness cross-examinations were completed.

New-born baby develops teeth

A NEW-BORN female developed two molar teeth in her mouth less than 24 hours after birth.

In an interview with a local daily, Rabab Abdul Nabi, the baby's mother said that Zahra was born on Jan 1, 1989 in hospital. Both of Zahra's parents were astonished when a nurse told them of their baby's premature development. The doctors did not notice the rare growth until Zahra's mother informed them.

Some people have said that this case is a sign of good luck while others think the opposite, however it is not extraordinary within Zahra's family. Her elder brother began teething when he was 20 days old and now has strong, healthy teeth.

Zahra's mother declared that her new born is healthy but has swollen lower gums.

Bangladesh envoy

KUWAIT, Jan 9, (KUNA): Minister of Amiri Diwan Sheikh Khalid Al Ahmed Al Sabah today received Bangladeshi Ambassador to Kuwait K.M. Shehabuddin. They discussed topics related to relations between the two countries.

The court was told that the defendant had colluded with a bootlegger by passing two containers of liquor for a sum of KD20,000, in Feb 1988. A witness, another customs inspector, said that the containers, after being inspected and passed by the defendant, were seized by another official at the department, who suspected the defendant.

He added that the containers carried 1,894 cartons of whisky and the culprit admitted that he had agreed to pass the quantity for a sum of KD50,000.

The defendant denied the charge, however, the court based its sentence on the evidence of witnesses and found the defendant guilty.

Nouri leaves for Geneva

KUWAIT, Jan 9, (KUNA): Kuwait Education Minister Anwar Al Nouri today left for Geneva at the head of an

educational delegation to attend the 41st session of the International Conference for Education scheduled for January 9-17. As Kuwait is a member at the International Educational Council the minister will also attend the council's 31st meeting which is scheduled to take part January 17-20.

Nouri is accompanied by Education Assistant Undersecretary for Planning and Development Rashid Al Hamad, and Deputy Director-General of the Public Authority for Applied Science Homoud Al Modhad and Kuwait's permanent representative at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in Paris Dr Faisal Al Salim.

REQUIRED DRIVER

With valid Kuwait driving licence and transferable residence permit (Article 18).

Please contact: Tel: 4811722, 4811723

Nasser confers with visiting Sudanese minister

KUWAIT, Jan 9, (KUNA): Social Affairs and Labour Minister Sheikh Nasser Mohammad Al Ahmad today conferred with visiting Sudanese State Minister for Expatriates Affairs Dr Ibrahim Al Amin and his accompanying delegation.

Following the meeting, Al Amin told reporters that boosting bilateral ties, Kuwait's backing and support of Sudan, affairs of Sudanese work force in Kuwait and the exchange of expertise in the field of social affairs were discussed.

On Sudan's internal situation, the minister said despite the economic crisis there, the Sudanese people at large are backing continuity of democracy, where "one under such a system could voice his objection against things that he believes are not in his country's interest."

Amin stressed that Sudan is proud of its strong relations with other Arab countries, saying that his country considers the Palestinian question as the Arab nation's central cause.

On the possibility of implementing the recent peace agreement between his government and Sudan's People's Liberation Movement led by John Garang, he said the Sudanese people have unanimously agreed on peace, resolving south Sudan's problem and convocation of a constitutional conference.

Deportee runs away from airport

HAKIM ALLAH, a Pakistani, fled from security forces after completing all deportation measures at Kuwait International Airport. He was supposed to depart on British Airways last Monday.

The man was sentenced to deportation due to violating the residence law in Kuwait.

A local daily reported that a security man escorted Hakim Allah to the airport but was surprised, after he completed all the necessary measures, that Hakim Allah had disappeared.

The Ministry of Interior has issued a search warrant to all police stations and called for an investigation of the security man.

Two arrested for whisky smuggling

TWO men, Jaber A. (no nationality) and Saad K. (Iraqi) were arrested by Umm Kungab's border patrol for smuggling liquor.

The patrol followed car tracks, found in the desert, which led them to a large hole containing 52 cartons of whisky, in Kabb. They also found another 457 bottles hidden in a nearby shed.

After thorough investigation, the patrol found the car parked outside Jaber's house.

Jaber claimed that the liquor belonged to Saad, who was supposed to collect them but never did.

Both men were referred to authorities.

Applied education authority to be re-organised

KUWAIT'S Public Authority for Applied Education and Training will soon witness a new structural organisation, according to Dr Abdul Rahman Al Muhallan, the director-general of the authority.

He said that the decision will be issued within the next few days after the board of directors at the authority endorse the document.

He told reporters, that the new organisation will have three posts for deputy director general for applied education affairs, deputy director general for training affairs and deputy director general for financial and administrative affairs.

Changes The new changes will also include the employing of a dean for student affairs and new departments for planning, com-

puters, administrative reform and public relations. He added that a centre for educational development affairs, another for the upgrading of teaching staff and the construction of the new premises of the Industrial College will also be carried out.

Meanwhile Muhallan pointed out that the re-organisation will witness significant co-operation between the authority and Kuwait University, hinting that an official from the university will be appointed on the board of directors. This official will undertake joint projects between the authority and the university.

He added that the authority will try to benefit from other Arab countries in the field of training and a meeting with the Moroccan ambassador to Kuwait was already held for this purpose.

KUWAIT, Jan 9, (KUNA): Sailing from Kuwait to the Indian Ocean, African coasts and South-east Asia in slow hand-made ships would have been an extremely tough voyage without the 'Naham' accompanying the sailors.

A traditional Kuwaiti term 'Naham', refers to the folkloric singer who accompanied Kuwaiti sailors, during the pre-ol era, in voyages to India, Malaysia and a number of African countries for pearl trading.

'Naham' played the role of the poet or the drummer in war times, whose only task was to elevate the morale of the sailors and to translate their passions and emotions into lively songs.

'Zuhairiyah' was always the favourite type of Kuwait poetry sung by the 'Naham' during the voyage.

In an interview with KUNA

Ministry employees may work part-time with special permission

By Lima Al Khalafawi

EMPLOYEES at ministries and government departments may work part-time in the private sector if they obtain special permission from their place of work.

Mohammed Al Shabnan, Assistant Under-secretary for Labour Affairs at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour explained that originally government employees were forbidden to take up part-time jobs in the private sector, however, a decree issued in 1979 gave the relevant minister the authority to grant permission to employees who are looking for part-time jobs after their duties.

This allowance was aimed at protecting the private sector and is easily granted providing the part-time job will not affect the employee's job, at the relevant ministry.

If a government employee is found working in the private sector without obtaining permission then disciplinary action will be taken against him. It is not a government employee's absolute

right to get a part-time job, the official added.

According to a labour law, Article 35 issued in 1964, all workers employed by private sector are entitled to a paid day off per week and those forced to work on their weekend should be paid a minimum of 150 per cent of their daily wage for that day, the official said.

Shabnan added that an employee cannot accumulate weekly holidays to go on a long leave. He declared that employees deserve a day's rest after several days of continuous work in order to maintain and improve physical and mental energy.

The official said that there were no plans to translate the labour law into English as Arabic is the official language of the country.

He added that the ministry welcomes all written inquiries concerning the labour law of the private and oil sector. All queries will be answered in detail, he said.

Maliki murder was politically motivated, says Saudi diplomat

LONDON, Jan 9, (Reuters): Saudi Arabia's charge d'affaires in Thailand, in remarks published today, blamed terrorists for the murder of a Saudi diplomat in Bangkok last Wednesday.

Abdullah Al Shabily told Asharq Al Awsat newspaper by telephone from London that the crime was politically motivated and not linked to a dispute with local labour gangs.

Bangkok police have not ruled out a political motive for the shooting of Third Secretary Saleh Al Maliki. But they say they suspect Thai labour rack-

eters murdered Saleh, whose job included the processing of work permit applications.

"The claim of responsibility by two terrorist groups in Beirut unveils the nature of the criminal act in the incident," the charge d'affaires was quoted as saying. Two militant Muslim groups in Lebanon have claimed responsibility for the murder.

The attack was the third in three months on Saudi diplomats. One was shot dead in Ankara and another seriously injured in Pakistan.

Kuwait to re-evaluate air fares, says Mazidi

RELEVANT authorities in Kuwait are going to re-evaluate and reconsider the prices of air-tickets according to Essa Al Mazidi, Minister of Service Affairs.

He said that a study on this issue will be submitted to the Higher Council of Civil Aviation for necessary action. He has denied that international air-transport markets have a direct influence on the local market, however, an indirect influence may exist he said as businessmen especially in Kuwait might also have businesses elsewhere in the Gulf.

He added that air-tickets were sometimes bought by transit passengers, from other Gulf coun-

tries to Europe and vice versa. Such tickets are cheaper due to reasons determined by European airline companies.

Mazidi pointed out that there are several factors controlling flight timetables including the type of aircraft, its capacity, number of flights and aviation movements.

He stressed on the importance of co-operation among GCC states in the aviation field and added that there are attempts to unify the prices of air-tickets throughout the Gulf states. He denied that the large numbers of travel agencies and airlines in the Gulf is the reason behind the air-ticket price reduction. He added that different prices on the same route is decided by the airlines themselves. He added that some passengers buy long destination tickets from neighbouring countries but this is the only case when it is cheaper.

Mazidi said that the Civil Aviation Authority is not yet convinced of the prices suggested by airlines and thereby law 31/1987 has not been applied. The authority decided to adjourn registration of prices until conclusive studies are carried out. He hopes a solution will be found by the first quarter of this year so that the new prices can be effective from the beginning of April.

Meanwhile, a number of officials at travel agencies in Kuwait have concluded that both Dubai and Bahrain reduced prices of flight-tickets on trips to Europe due to the large number of airline companies in those countries. The difference in prices, compared to that in Kuwait, is up to 50 per cent. They also said that low prices of return tickets from Europe is due to the cheapness of local currency.

Top priority given to education in Bahrain

BAHRAIN'S educational development has been boosted significantly in the last decade, thanks largely to the work of a special entity. The government has recognised the importance of education as the key to overall development in all spheres. In recent times top priority has been given to promote and develop the educational structure in the country. With the foresighted and dynamic guidance of Dr Ali Fakhroo, Minister of Education, Bahrain is well underway to achieving its educational goals. Education received a substantial increase in the last budget. However, one organisation has been playing a key role in helping the government achieve its educational objectives in no small measure.

The Bahrain National Commission for Education, Science and Culture (BNCEC) was formed in October 1984 as a full member of UNESCO. The organisation is an upshot of Bahrain National Commission for UNESCO, which was established in 1967 as an associate member of the UN agency. Following Bahrain's independence in 1971, BNCEC was created to cope with rising workload and increasing educational priorities in the island.

In an exclusive interview with the Arab Times, Rashid Sulaybihi, Secretary-General of BNCEC, highlighted his organisation's role in serving Bahrain's educational objectives and needs both on national and regional levels.

"Our office works on all matters pertaining to the Ministry of Education. We act as a liaison between the ministry and other government organisations, non-governmental organisations and individuals. We collaborate and co-operate with all concerned dealing with educational matters at the national level."

He said BNCEC conducts study programmes of various organisations and their activities on their behalf, determining their needs and requirements and assessing potential benefits for the organisation concerned.

Sulaybihi added that a significant part of BNCEC's role is to present Bahrain in various national, regional and international educational seminars and conferences.

"We help to organise prominent educational seminars in Bahrain with the co-operation of the Ministry of Education. We believe such seminars greatly help to develop our educational needs and objectives. We attend overseas seminars to keep us abreast of educational developments worldwide."

The secretary-general said that BNCEC offers technical assistance in the form of educational aids and equipment to educational institutions in Bahrain. It helps to procure the services of international educational experts and consultants when required to national institutions as well as to those in other Gulf states.

As part of its services BNCEC also publishes a quarterly magazine in Arabic and a monthly bulletin that provides information on all aspects of education in Bahrain and abroad. The publications are disseminated to various organisations in the island.

BNCEC is associated with a number of leading educational organisations in the world.

"We are unique in the Gulf because we are the only national commission on education which deals with more organisations than any other in the region," said Sulaybihi.

He asserted that Bahrain enjoys associations with more regional and international educational organisations than any other Gulf and Arab state. Apart from UNESCO, Bahrain is a full member of the (Arab Bureau for Education and Science), Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) and (Arab League Educational, Scientific Organisation).

According to the secretary-general BNCEC also works in close collaboration and co-operation with United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in Bahrain. UNESCO was established in the island in 1971. November 1982 to offer educational services to Bahrain as well as other Gulf and Arab countries at large.

Sulaybihi cited the 3rd GCC education meeting held last October in Doha as a significant step towards the development and fulfilment of objectives in education in the Gulf. He said the meeting discussed the role of education and its development in the region, focussing particularly on the needs and demands of education in the region.

The meeting covered such important issues as curricula, educational technology, foreign or private education, exchange of teachers among Gulf states, university libraries, formation of two-year community colleges and common educational goals in the region.

The secretary-general said: "We would like to continue what we are doing now and hopefully serve Bahrain better in the future. I wish all civil servants show a certain degree of devotion to their career."

Meanwhile, Bahrain will attend the 10th ordinary session of ABEGS between 20-23rd March in Iraq.

In Bahrain on Jan 14th the BNCEC is organising a national workshop on special education at the Holiday Inn. Two experts from UNESCO will attend the seminar.

Dr Ali Fakhroo, Minister of Education, left Bahrain Monday, to attend the general convention of UNESCO.

Geological study planned on Arabian peninsula

A JOINT field study on higher Cretaceous period sediments in Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, UAE and Oman will soon be conducted by a team of researchers from Kuwait University.

Rifai added that Gulf and Arab researchers will have the opportunity to upgrade their scientific experiences by dealing with the geological nature of the Arabian peninsula.

The study will implement scientific and cultural co-operation among Gulf universities and colleges. It will also enrich Arab scientific libraries.

which took place during this period.

The two year study is supported by Kuwait University's Research Department.

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Traffic congestion at Embassies Complex to be resolved: Houti

THE parking problem at the Embassies Complex at Istiqlal Street will soon be solved, according to Abdul Rahman Al Houti, Minister of Public Works.

In an interview with a local daily, he was quoted as saying that he will follow up on the construction of exit and entry gates at the complex with the co-operation of the Municipality.

Houti added that the Ghazali flyover project is of a very high standard and the first of its kind in Kuwait. He said it is designed on the suspension bridge system because it has been constructed near various industries.

The flyover will link Shuwaikh and Shuaiba ports.

Meanwhile, Houti said that the project will be expanded to stretch from the Fifth Ring Road to the Sixth and will link Shuaiba to the capital.

The official said that since the administrative reform plan was endorsed by the Cabinet, the Ministry of Public Works has followed all its recommendations.

He disclosed that this year will be that of administrative reforms and hinted that an intensified meeting with the ministry's employees will be undertaken to inform them on the aims of the administrative reforms. There will also be a training course to upgrade employee efficiency.

Future projects that the ministry will undertake include Kuwait University's new headquarters at Shaddadiyah, the Amiri Diwan Project, a telecommunications tower, a guest house project, Sabiyah flyover, an express road within the city, and several tunnels within the Capital.

ISA TOWN, Bahrain: The walls of the main hallway at the Ibn Khaldoun National School are decorated with works of art — a collage of bright purples, a sunset, children playing.

Add then there are the dinosaurs. Huge, multicoloured dinosaurs.

"Kids everywhere just love dinosaurs," says Char Pribuss, an American visitor at the elementary school. She moves from drawing to drawing with the kind of excited appreciation for children's art that parents usually reserve for their own children's creations.

Indeed, at first glance the Ibn Khaldoun display appears as any other gallery of elementary school works. But to Pribuss and her husband, Rudy, it is much more.

Over the past 15 years Char, a former art teacher, and Rudy, a retired engineer, have travelled to hundreds of schools in more than 35 countries to encourage the exchange of school children's art works with schools in the United States. They see such exchanges as a way to broaden the horizons of students worldwide by graphically showing them how children in other lands are similar to themselves. It is seen as a first step in breaking down the ignorance of other cultures that leads to prejudice and misunderstanding.

"We are trying to leave a better world in a very small way," says Char.

The Pribusses call the exchange programme Paintbrush Diplomacy. They say that what started as "a lark" in the mid-1970s has blossomed into a \$100,000-a-year private, non-profit international effort that has grown beyond their wildest expectations. As Char puts it: "We have a tiger by the tail."

The Pribusses' recent trip to Bahrain and Saudi Arabia was their first to the Gulf region. They hope that it will result in regular exchanges not only of

Paintbrush diplomacy

Bahrain's children participate in an art exchange programme for world children, described as a first step to break down the 'ignorance of other cultures'. A report by Warren Richey...



Students with their art, in the background at the Ibn Khaldoun School in Isa Town, Bahrain.

art works but also of letters and photographs between students in the US and their new Arab friends in the Gulf.

Communication

"We think of it as communication through art," Char says. "It is a tiny way of touching that doesn't hurt anyone. It is not political, it is not national, it is not money, it is not religion. It is just a humanitarian thing that is a tiny way of young people communicating and possibly building relationships."

Today, some 30 other American couples — like the Pribusses — are travelling around the world to help set up art exchanges with participating schools in 10 states in the US. The Pribusses stress that each couple pays for its own trips. They receive no compensation other than the satisfaction of meeting school children in distant lands and facilitating the exchanges.

"They do it because they have heard about our experiences," says Rudy. "The majority of them found that the Paintbrush Diplomacy exchange was really the most enjoyable part of the trip."

Char adds that the art exchanges can give greater purpose to international travel and make a vacation trip more enriching than just sightseeing and souvenir shopping. "They met the young of the world. They found what really is happening in a country instead of going into a (souvenir) store and buying a lot of cuckoo things you don't need," Char says.

Through all their travels the Pribusses have never stopped living their lives as an adventure. The two grandparents from San Mateo, Calif., count among their more memorable experiences being kicked off a midnight train in Czechoslovakia because they failed

to secure necessary \$24 in-transit visas. It was an overnight train from Krakow to Budapest and the Pribusses didn't realize they needed the visas. They had planned to sleep all the way through Czechoslovakia.

It was cold, dark, and raining. But the two military policemen were determined. The Pribusses were deposited along with their luggage and artwork on the tracks near the Polish-Czech border and forced to walk back on the tracks into Poland in the rain.

"At first I thought I'm going to cry," Char says. "And then I thought you know I'm not going to let them think that American women are wimps."

Tales

Later, they caught a plane to Budapest and still managed to make all their appointments.

Despite such harrowing tales, the most lasting impression the Pribusses carry from

their travels is of the similarities of children worldwide.

"In all of these schools everywhere in the world I hold up a drawing that has Snoopy on it. It doesn't matter if they can speak a word of English. All those kids look up — like in Scandinavia — they say, 'Oooh, Snooobee'."

The Pribusses' efforts have resulted in several formal showings in the United States of children's art from schools around the world, including at the United Nations headquarters in New York. The Pribusses say that plans are under way at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington to display children's art works from schools in the Gulf, including Bahrain.

"I think that is a great coup for all these kids to know that their art will be exposed in such a prestigious place," says Char, referring to the Smithsonian show. "I feel, boy, if we work for that alone, it's good."

Though there is no connection between Paintbrush Diplomacy and the US government, during some trips the Pribusses have received logistical help, encouragement, and advice from US diplomats.

During the recent Gulf trip, US officials in Saudi Arabia screened the art the Pribusses were carrying from the US to prevent causing any offense in the conservative Muslim state. In Saudi Arabia, for example, most women wear long black veils.

In one case, Char says she was warned about a student's painting of a girl wearing a formal prom dress with thin straps.

"I bring my travelling paints and painted the neck up. I matched the exact colour and matched the sleeves down," says Char. "In another one a child sent over a pencil drawing of a teen-aged girl in a mini-skirt. I erased the skirt and brought it down below the knee."

1988, The Christian Science Monitor

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

MORNING

- 9.00 Holy Quran
 - 9.10 Good Morning
 - 9.15 Cartoon serial
 - 9.45 World News via Satellite
 - 10.00 Qulooob Hazina: Arabic serial
 - 10.50 News Summary/Good Morning
 - 11.00 Bait Al Awham: local Arabic serial
 - 12.00 Variety Show
 - 1.00 News Summary
 - 1.05 Holy Quran/Closedown
- #### EVENING
- 4.00 Holy Quran
 - 4.15 World News via Satellite
 - 4.45 Bambo: animated feature
 - 5.15 Tum Tek wal Atfal
 - 5.45 Nabhu Wa Asdiqa: We and Our Friends
 - 6.00 Liqa Fi Al Zakira: historical serial
 - 7.00 News Summary
 - 7.15 Agricultural Magazine
 - 7.45 Questions and Answers

- 8.30 Good Evening
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Duwaar Al Zaman: daily Arabic serial, starring Laila Taher
- 10.45 Min Al Aif Al Aiyah: variety show
- 12.00 News Summary
- 12.05 World News via Satellite
- 12.20 Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Noveltoons: cartoon serial
- 6.30 Fire Raiser: a serial for children a woman does her best to prevent the children from reaching the river crossing
- 7.00 Footsteps: "Pyramids in the Jungle." A look at archaeological finds in Mexico and Honduras
- 8.00 News in English

- 8.40 A Year in the Life: the Gardeners unite to help a family member to quit smoking
- 9.40 The Hit Squad: men and women are caught off-guard by the hit squad's candid cameras
- 10.10 Bustin' Loose: comedy. Jimmy challenges a plumber that he can do a better job than the professional
- 10.30 Jake and the Fatman: a man accused of murder plots his escape by taking a hostage. Starring William Conrad and Joe E. Penny
- 11.30 News Summary/followed by Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

BBC World Services

- 0000 Newstalk
- 30 Megamix
- 0100 News Summary followed by Outlook
- 25 Financial News
- 30 Sports Roundup
- 30 News by Post (ex 31st W. B. Years: Readings from the Poems)
- 45 Europe's World
- 0200 World News
- 09 British Press Review
- 15 Network UK
- 30 Sports International
- 0300 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 The World Today
- 30 John Peel
- 0400 Newstalk
- 30 The Learning World
- 45 New Ideas
- 55 Book Choice
- 0500 World News
- 09 Twenty-four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Financial News
- 45 Words of Faith
- 45 The World Today
- 0600 Newstalk
- 30 The Bee's Lost Beatles
- 0700 World News
- 09 Twenty-four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Europe's World
- 45 Network UK
- 0800 World News
- 09 Words of Faith
- 15 Health Matters
- 30 Megamix
- 0900 World News
- 09 British Press Review
- 15 The World Today
- 30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup
- 45 Havana Guitar Festival (ex 3rd Mario Lanza)

- 1000 News Summary followed by Discovery
- 30 Sports International
- 1100 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Waveguide
- 25 Book Choice
- 30 Citizens
- 1200 Newstalk
- 15 Multitrack 1: Top 20
- 45 Sports Roundup
- 1300 World News
- 09 Twenty-four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Network UK
- 45 Recording of the Week
- 1400 Outlook, opening with 5-Minute News
- 45 Havana Guitar Festival (ex 3rd Mario Lanza)
- 1500 Radio News
- 15 A Jolly Good Show
- 1600 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Omnibus
- 45 The World Today
- 1700 World News
- 09 Commentary
- 15 Citizens
- 45 Sports Roundup
- 1800 Newstalk
- 30 Discovery
- 1900 News Summary followed by Outlook
- 25 Financial News
- 30 Development '88

- 1800 Pops
- 1900 Helter Skelter
- 2000 Pops
- 2130 News
- 2200 Indian Classical Hour
- 2300 Easy Listening
- 2400 Instrumental Listening
- 0200 Closedown

English

- MORNING
- 0800 Opening
- 0802 Songs and Music
- 0805 Thoughts in Islam
- 0830 News in English
- 0840 Songs and Music
- 0915 Daily Programme
- 0930 They Sold a Million
- 1000 Our Press Today
- 1005 Songs and Music
- 1030 Country Collection
- 1100 Closedown
- EVENING
- 2100 Opening
- 2102 In the Latin Mood
- 2130 News
- 2145 Point of View
- 2155 Songs and Music
- 2200 Islam
- 2215 In the Groove
- 2245 Daily Programme
- 2300 Hit Special
- 2330 Jazz in Action
- 2400 Closedown

FM Services

- 0600 Opening/Easy Listening
- 0830 News
- 0840 Easy Listening
- 1000 Songs and Music
- 1200 Arabic Music
- 1300 Easy Listening
- 1330 News on FM Service
- 1340 Easy Listening
- 1400 Classical Music
- 1600 Easy Listening
- 1700 Italian Hour

Urdu

- 1900 Opening/Holy Quran
- 1910 Beharom Qani
- 1920 Songs
- 1935 Press Report
- 1940 Radio Club
- 2000 News in Urdu
- 2020 Songs
- 2040 Jahan Numa
- 2100 Closedown

Oriental art show in Dubai

THE Mathaf Gallery, London, will take part in the Dubai Annual Horse Show from Jan 18 to 21. The gallery, well-known for exhibiting 19th century and modern paintings of the Arab world will show a selection of their 1989 oriental art collection.

Oil paintings done by artists belonging to the American, French and English schools of art will be shown at the Dubai Horse Show.

Among the artists whose work will be displayed are William Webb, Jean Leon Gerome, Rudolf Weiss, Philippe Pavy and others.

Webb, a landscape, animal and genre painter, lived in London but visited the Middle East. He specialised in painting animals and landscapes,

especially in Jerusalem.

Gerome, a painter of historical and genre scenes, was one of the most famous artists in the world in the second half of the 19th century. He visited the Middle East several times and travelled across Egypt, Palestine, Syria and Turkey.

With a "fantastic sense" of composition and fine colouring, Gerome painted a series of oil paintings of the Middle East, showing players, Muslims at prayer, cafes, interiors of harems and exotic members of the Ottoman army.

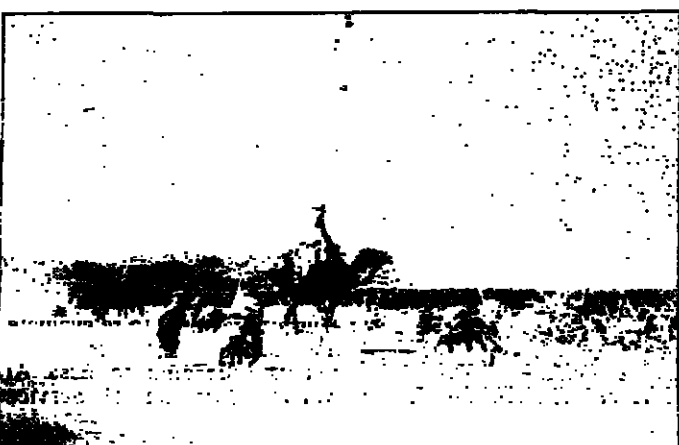
Rodolf Weiss, who belonged to the Austrian school of art, was awarded in 1889 for his works entitled "After the war — oriental scene" and "Portrait of femme." His paintings can be divided into portraits

and scenes set in Cairo. He specialised in topographical scenes and stage and theatre decoration.

Philippe Pavy, who travelled extensively in the Orient, was keenly interested in the Middle East. He is well known for his use of bright colour and his lively "market scenes" of Tunis and Morocco.

Eugene Fromentin (1820-1890) visited Algeria several times. From his expeditions to that country, he produced some of the finest examples of hunting and falconry scenes of the desert and marsh Arabs. Fromentin's paintings have been much admired and have given inspiration to many Orientalist painters who followed in his footsteps.

Charles Theodore Frere,



Arabs on a Coastal Road, by Eugene Girardet.

who was lured "by the sun to Algeria," stayed in that country for over an year. He said he was inspired by a vision of mystery and fantasy, capturing on canvas the streets, the bazars, the palaces, springs sheltered

by palm trees, the oases where caravans camped and the dust clouds raised by camel hooves.

The Dubai Horse Show will take place at the Metropolitan Hotel in Dubai.

CINEMA TODAY

- Al Andalus**
- Aliens
- Starring: James Cameron
- Al Salamia**
- Funoon centre performance
- Al Hama**
- Ayyam Al R'ob (Arabic)
- Starring: Mahmoud Yassen, Mervat Ameen
- Drive-In**
- Yom Mar Yom Helu (Arabic)
- Starring: Faten Hamama, Mohammad Muneer
- Al Firdous**
- Inteqam (Hindi)
- Starring: Ali Kapoor, Meenakshi Seshadri, Sunny Deol
- Al Jebb**
- Onk Prem Onk Jwala (Bengali)

- Ahmadi Drive-In**
- Ayyam Fi London (Arabic)
- Fahabeh Open-Air**
- Kahani Kismet Ki (Hindi)
- Al Fahabeh**
- Police Academy V
- Al Jahra**
- Noorie (Bengali)
- Granada**
- Ennu Nadhante Nimmi (Malayalam)
- Salaabkhat**
- Security Unlimited

PRAYERS

- Fajr 5.20 am
- Zuhr 11.56
- Asr 2.49 pm
- Maghreb 5.08
- Isha 6.30

NIGHT CHEMIST

- Kuwait**
- Al Shaab Pharmacy
- Fahd Al Salem St.
- Ibn Rushd Pharmacy**
- Souk Al Kuwait Bldg., Souk Duaij
- Hawalli and Nugra**
- Al Waleed Pharmacy
- Tunis St.
- Salmiya and Rumailhiya**
- Al Raed Pharmacy
- Amman St.
- Fahabeh and Ahmadi**
- Al Adil Pharmacy
- Awadhi Bldg., Dabbous St., F'heel
- Farwaniya**
- Al Madinah Pharmacy
- South St.
- Jahra**
- Al Zahra Pharmacy
- New Commercial Market

WHAT'S ON

- ARTS**
- Sultan Gallery**
- ANN Eid: Photographs of Kuwait, on show at the gallery, Thunayan Al Ghanem Bldg., Al Soor St. Open daily from 5-8pm.
- Iwan Gallery**
- EXHIBITION of lithographs by three 19th century Orientalists. Open from 9 am to 1 pm, 5 to 9 pm, at the gallery located in Zahra Complex, Salmiya.
- Ghadir Gallery**
- JAN 10-24: Kuwaiti artist Awatif Al Sharty will display a selection of her latest paintings at the gallery. It will be open from 9 am to 12.30 pm and 4 to 8.30 pm.
- Kuwait Society for Formative Arts**
- JAN 27 to Feb 9: The Kuwait Society for Formative Arts will hold the annual general exhibition, displaying art works by Kuwaiti and non-Kuwaiti plastic artists.
- The society invites formative artists, Kuwaiti and non-Kuwaiti, to submit their works. Rules: The exhibition is open to all plastic artists residing in Kuwait. A maximum of three paintings can be submitted. Only original works which have not been exhibited before in Kuwait or elsewhere will be accepted. The works of art that will go on show will be selected by a committee and the Society retains the right to reject any work of art. The last date for submitting entries is Jan 20. Entries can be delivered from 5 to 8 pm at the premises of the K.S.F.A., Hawalli.
- THEATRE**
- Konkani Drama**
- JAN 13: 3 pm. Labour Union Hall, Hawalli. The Goa Cultural Association presents Konkani drama entitled "Tujem Sukh Mozo Dushman," written and directed by Rex de Bardez. The cast includes the Mendes Brothers, Anthony and guest-stars from Goa — William de Curtorim and S.

Lemos. For details contact the GCA members.

Festival of Dances

JAN 13: 4 pm and 7.30 pm, Indian film star Hema Malini presents a festival of Indian classical dances and dance drama at the Andalus Cinema. Dinner with the artistes will be held at the IAC on Jan 12.

Konkani Drama

FEB 3: The New G.O.A. will present the Konkani drama "Ekuch Kazar," featuring M. Boyer, Betty Naz, Sabina, Rosario Dias and others, at the IAC. For reservations call 2402188.

Kuwait Players

Kuwait Players present Alice in Wonderland, a musical fantasy directed by Carol Jelley. It will be performed at the Universal American School, Salwa. Performances are as follows: Jan 17 (7.30 pm) Gala night including buffet. Jan 18 and 25 (6.30 pm) family night. Jan 19/26: matinee (3 pm) and evening (7.30 pm). Jan 20: 3 pm, 5.30 pm. Jan 23: 5.30 pm: Madhatters Tea Party, followed by Alice in Wonderland. Jan 27: Final performance. Tickets — KD3 (adults) and KD2.500 (children). For reservations call 5726048, 5657749.

SOCIAL

Nirjhar show

JAN 13: 6 pm. The Nirjhar Cultural Group will hold a variety show at the Holiday Inn Hotel to celebrate the Victory Day of Bangladesh. The show, originally scheduled for Jan 6, was postponed due to unavoidable circumstances. All invites are requested to attend. For details call Mahe Alam — 4311856; Firoz — 4310483.

Bangladesh Association

THE Bangladesh Association, Kuwait, will organise drawing, story-telling and recitation competitions on the occasion of the Shahid Day (Martyrs Day). Only Bangladeshi children up to the age of 15 are eligible to take part. Those who are interested contact any office bearer of the association or call Yusuf — Tel: 4314193.

Delta Get-together

JAN 13: 4 pm. The participants of the Delta Medical Centre will hold a get-together at the Holiday Inn Hotel. Dr Syed Mokarram Ali will be the chief guest. All DMC participants are requested to attend.

Contact

JAN 14: The next meeting of the ladies information group Contact will be held at the SAS Tent. Newcomers to Kuwait are particularly welcome. For details tele. 3720197/4874513/5388105.

Bharati Kalai Mandram

JAN 20: IAC, Fumaites. The Bharati Kalai Mandram, a fine arts association of the Tamil-speaking community, will celebrate the Nehru centenary and Pongal, a harvest festival. A variety show featuring classical dances, drama and music will be held. For entry passes call 5331561.

Kuwait Caledonians

FEB 2: The Caledonians will hold the Burns Night (Thursday) at the Messiah Beach Hotel. The guest from Scotland will be Jack Glenzy. Tel: 5335082, 5332235, 3727691 ext. 253.

CINEMA

British Council

JAN 14/15: 6.30 pm. A feature film "Death on the Nile" will be shown at the British Council. Starring Peter Ustinov, the film is about murder, mystery and jealousy onboard a steamer on the River Nile. Duration: 140 minutes. Admission is free but it is advisable to reserve seats. Tel: 2515512, 2533204.

HOTELS

At the Holiday Inn

Every Wednesday is "Sea Drama on Ice" in Al Dana. Thursday night is Indian night featuring exotic eastern cuisine; and listen to the music played by the Gharibian Trio. Enjoy Arabian Night in Al Andalus Supper club on Thursday nights. Friday brunch — fun time for families; games, prizes. Also open to Jaycee Club members.

At the International

La Palma is open for lunch and dinner from 12 noon to 3 pm. International cuisine including buffet featuring hors d'oeuvres buffet, hot buffet and desserts.

The Failaka Restaurant features lunch and dinner. The menu offers international cuisine. In the evenings, the all-ladies group from Poland, the Soft Trio, will entertain guests.

At the SAS

AL BUSTAN Friday Brunch: for families from 11.30 am to 3 pm, highlights include music by Polish duo Danuta and Feliks and video corner for kids.

Peacock Room: Chinese meals prepared by chef Von Kwee Kiong. The menu features fried wonton, sautéed diced chicken with cashew nut and steak Chinese style.

AI Boom: "New Taste of the Week," prepared by chef Peter D. Zobrist. Appetizers, charcoal grilled steak and seafood, plus daily special.

At the Continental

GARDENIA: 7 am to midnight; buffets featuring Arabic, Continental and Indian food. Special buffet for Thursday dinner and Friday lunch.

Darbar: daily Indian lunch buffet, except Friday; a la carte dinner.

At the Sheraton

Riccardo's: Italian cuisine prepared using home-made pasta; lunch and dinner, evening entertainment by the Siena's Duo. Closed on Fridays.

Al Hamra: Sundays: Lebanese cuisine; Tuesday's is Thai Night; Wednesday's: seafood night; musicians provide a blend of music from the East and the West.

Friday's buffet brunch while the children enjoy games in the ballroom next door.

Hunt Room: lunch and dinner rest., specialises in meat and fish dishes.

Le Tarbouche: offers a taste of Lebanon for lunch and dinner. Thursdays: Arab world specialties night.

Coffee Shop offers casual meals and quick lunches plus a daily special.

At Messiah Beach

MUBARAKIYAH Restaurant: open 24 hours, buffet breakfast, lunch and dinner and snacks. Sundays: Ladies Day; Mondays: birthday special; Fridays: special buffet "a go go."

At the Ramada

AL BENDAR Coffee Shop offers Continental and Arabic buffets for breakfast, lunch and dinner; 6 am to midnight; a la carte available.

Thursday's is BBQ Night at Le Mirage Night Club, with full buffet and entertainment by the Al Arzz Band.

Friday Family Brunch introduces cartoon characters on the ship's discovery; train tour of the hotel's garden and waterfront.

The Marina Takeaway Counter features a selection of sandwiches and snacks, 4 to 11 pm.

At the Pullman

ELYSEES Restaurant offers gourmet French meal; Al Shallah Coffee Shop features international and Arabic cuisine with live entertainment.

SPORTS

Calling all Marshalls

JAN 12: 5.30 pm. Meeting will be held at the KT Club to discuss the preparations for the 10th Kuwait International Rally. For details call 4832192/4832388.

PBAK Non-Pro bowling league

JAN 13: The second PBAK Filipino non-Pro bowling league will be held.

Friday's schedule: 8.30 am: Calocan City vs Las Pinas; Makati vs Valenzuela; 11.30 am: San Juan vs Cavite City; Manila vs Quezon City; 2.30 pm: Zamboanga City vs Mandaluyong vs Bauo City. The tournament has been sponsored by Dollarco and Holiday Inn.

Tennis Clinic

Tennis Clinic starts at the Kuwait International Hotel from Feb. 4. Registration has now begun. For details call Colin Hall, Tel: 2533000.

IMPORTANT ADVERTISEMENT

The Supplies Store Company

hereby requests its clients whose Sanyo and Sony appliances are still at its repair shops, to proceed immediately to receive their property within a one-month period from the date of publication of this advertisement.

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Sony Workshop

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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

OUR civilisation is still in a middle stage ... no longer wholly guided by instinct, not yet wholly guided by reason — Theodore Dreiser, US novelist (1871-1945).

Sudan sinking into deeper trouble

By Hamza Hendawi

KHARTOUM, (Reuters): Gripped by a combination of problems on almost every front, Sudan is sinking into deeper economic and political trouble. Arab and Western diplomats have said.

"The Sudanese will get to the edge of the abyss but my guess is they will stay there and not fall," said a senior Western diplomat. "They have a unique way of muddling through crises."

In recent weeks Sudan has been tested by an attempted coup, street protests, a general strike and the collapse of what diplomats saw as a chance of ending five years of civil war in the south.

Senior officials of Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi's Umma Party blamed foreign powers for inciting last week's widespread unrest, triggered by a government decision to raise prices.

Rescued The government rescinded the price increases amid signs that democracy in Sudan, which was restored in 1986 after 16 years of one-party rule, could be threatened by further popular strife.

In what was seen by several newspapers as near incitement, Finance Minister Omar Nour Al Dayem, a close aide of Mahdi, threatened last Thursday that Umma Party loyalists would combat any fresh unrest in Khartoum.

The governor of the western region of Kordofan, Abdul-Rasoul Al Nour, also warned that members of the two-million-strong Muslim Al Ansar sect, Umma's powerhouse, were ready to march on the capital to confront protesters.

The Umma Party member and close protégé of Mahdi's uncle, his threat in a speech on last Sunday broadcast live on state radio.

Military sources said troops had already prevented Ansar militiamen from reaching Khartoum during the protests, in which at least one person was killed and scores were wounded.

"Umma threats to use force to suppress the unrest show that we have lost the tolerance that has

characterised our politics for so long," said Tayseer Mohammed Ali, a university lecturer.

Ali helped engineer a wave of protests which led to the military overthrow of former President Jaafar Nimeiri in 1985.

Accused at home and abroad of human rights violations linked to the civil war, Sudan's vital relations with Western financial backers are at a low ebb because of the government's failure to end the fighting.

Harvest In addition, Libyan-backed groups opposed to the Chadian government have been wreaking havoc in Sudan's western Darfur region.

Reports of battles with Sudanese troops in Darfur suggest that the situation in the mainly desert region is barely short of a full-scale war, the diplomats said.

They and academics, church and trade union leaders added that an end to the civil war in the south, which costs the Treasury about five million pounds (\$1 million) daily, may be the key.

Rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) have fought since 1983 to end what they see as the domination of the animist and Christian south by the Muslim and Arabised north.

Flee The war and famine forced millions of southerners to flee and tens of thousands starved to death last year.

But Ushari Ahmed Mahmoud, a Khartoum University lecturer and human rights activist, cautioned: "Mahdi is in no hurry."

"He is doing rather well, getting lots of money from Arab and Western countries and looking like he is going to be prime minister for a long time to come," he added.

Umma and the National Islamic Front (NIF) — partners in the ruling coalition — joined forces last month to reject a tentative peace pact between the SPLA and Democratic Unionist Party (DUP).

Parliament instead adopted a vague peace plan proposed by Mahdi. The rebels turned it down and the DUP, also angered by the price increases, quit the government last week and joined the opposition.

Stroessner has beaten off all challengers

By Tyler Bridges

ASUNCION, Paraguay: As one of the longest-ruling world leaders, Paraguayan strong man Alfredo Stroessner has beaten off all civilian and military challengers.

But Paraguayans were reminded recently that the 76-year-old general, who has ruled since 1954, cannot best the one sure nemesis of all dictators: his own mortality.

And that fact has created a great deal of uncertainty and worry in a country where 75 per cent of its citizens have known only his rule.

In September, because of apparent complications from surgery, General Stroessner disappeared from public view for about three weeks. As a result, for the first time, he was unable to attend ceremonies marking several important historical anniversaries. He also cancelled a long-planned trip to Taiwan.

These events unleashed discussion of a long-taboo subject here: post-Stroessner Paraguay.

Strong "Stroessner had always appeared as strong as a bull," said Martin Chioia, a top official in the ruling Colorado Party.

"But people are thinking more of the future. There's much uncertainty and anxiety."

Although Stroessner has governed through fear and intimidation, most Paraguayans don't seem to be longing for his departure. Independent polls indicate he enjoys the support of about 50 per cent of the population, thanks to rapid economic growth during his reign.

Many Paraguayans worry Stroessner's demise will spark the type of political instability that crippled the nation before he took power. From 1935-54, Paraguay had 11 leaders.

As a way of subtly planting doubts about democracy, the government-controlled media prints dispatches highlighting the economic and political disorder in Argentina, Peru, and

Brazil following their return to civilian rule.

"Paraguayans aren't looking forward to Stroessner's death," said Tom Whigham, a history professor at the University of Georgia. "Nobody knows what will happen."

While the future is cloudy, few people are willing to bet that the military and the ruling Colorado Party won't continue to hold power.

Chioia said if Stroessner dies soon, the civilian and armed forces leadership would adhere to the constitution, under which Congress would name an interim president until new elections were held.

Opposition politicians are convinced that the military and Colorado Party bosses would not permit them to win the presidency. "The military would take power, although maybe they would do it with a figurehead president," said Carlos Romero Pereira, who heads a dissident wing of the Colorado Party.

The failure of the six opposition political parties to unify behind a proposal that would pave the way to democracy strengthens the regime. Not only are the opposition parties divided among themselves but each is rent by internal squabbles.

"If Stroessner died tomorrow, and free, democratic elections were to be held in three months, the opposition wouldn't know what to do, they wouldn't know where to begin," a foreign diplomat said.

Still, several developments in the past year have given hope to the opposition.

● Before a small upswing in 1988, per capita income had declined annually since '82 with the stagnation of the economy.

● The economic problems have fomented discontent not only among urban and rural workers but also among businessmen.

● Stroessner faces increased dissent within the ruling party, which suffered a traumatic split last year.

The Christian Science Monitor

Modernisation weakening feudal traditions

Politics in South Asia is often a family affair

By Sheila Toff

NEW DELHI: The recent election of Benazir Bhutto as premier in Pakistan, Rajiv Gandhi's tenure as prime minister of India, and the presidential election bid of Sri Lanka's Srimavo Bandaranaike — matriarch of a leading political family — all testify to the fact that politics in South Asia is very often a family affair.

Although democratic currents and modernisation are weakening the feudal traditions and family ties that spawned dynastic politics, analysts agree that, throughout the region, a leader's family ties are crucial in building a political career.

War

"This is unique to traditional societies, even more so in Asia where the sense of family is strong," says S. Nihal Singh, a New Delhi political commentator. "When someone has built up the aura of a great leader, it's easy to convince people that the aura has rubbed off on the progeny and family."

Sri Lanka's Srimavo Bandaranaike, herself a former prime minister, became active in politics after the 1959 assassination of her husband, Prime Minister Solomon Bandaranaike.

Many of Sri Lanka's Buddhist Sinhalese (80 per cent of the population) regard her husband as a leader who brought government to the common man and elevated the Sinhalese language and Buddhism to national status. Yet, rooted in these very policies are the bitter issues that have ignited the five-year civil war between Sri Lanka's minority Tamils and the Sinhalese.

Similarly, the Bhuttos and Gandhis, and opposition leaders in Bangladesh, are finding that the very links that have made their families symbols of national identity have also made them symbols of controversy. This is partly due to their predecessors' mixed political legacies.

In Pakistan, Benazir has achieved the distinction of becoming the first woman head of government of a Muslim

nation. The populist legacy of her late father, former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, was key to her election victory in November, analysts say. But she also had to tangle with the bitter memories many Pakistanis still retain of the political abuses during her father's reign.

Jail

Benazir, analysts say, adroitly invoked her father's name while shedding his left-wing policies for a more centrist stance acceptable to the powerful military and establishment politicians. A member of an influential land-owning family, Benazir's political aspirations were nurtured by her father who called her "a chip off the old block." Officials in her Pakistan People's Party say she also made her own mark through the jail terms and self-imposed exile that followed her father's execution in 1979.

And, after Bhutto's 1977 overthrow, his family came to symbolize democracy and resistance to the military rule of the late Mohammed Zia-ul-Haq.

"History is replete with people who have depleted their political inheritance," says Salman Taseer, a party official and biographer of the elder Bhutto. "Benazir has shown that she could pull through."

But in Bangladesh (formerly East Pakistan), the legacies of national leaders — Sheikh Hasina Wajed, daughter of Bangladesh's founder Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, and Begum Khaleida Zia, widow of former President Ziaur Rahman — have failed to do the same.

Strife

Despite a strong political tradition, a desire for a non-military regime, and an openness toward women unusual for an Islamic society, they have been unable to mount an effective challenge to strongman Hussain Muhammad Ershad. Recent natural disasters in the country as well as infighting between the women politicians have tended to sidetrack their bid.

"The two ladies have split Bangladesh down the middle,"

says Singh, the commentator. "The appeals of the father and the husband offer separate visions."

Across the border, another political scion faces tougher political problems. Rajiv Gandhi is grandson of India's first prime minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, and son of late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. For many Indians, the Nehru-Gandhi family represents a tenuous thread of continuity and unity in a nation often torn by ethnic and religious strife.

Rajiv, a former airline pilot, joined politics reluctantly after the death of his brother, Sanjay, who was being groomed as heir apparent. Rajiv came to power after his mother's assassination in 1984 and later won a landslide victory leading the Congress Party, which has dominated post-independence India.

But, in general elections due by the end of next year, some political analysts say Rajiv could be vulnerable.

For months, Rajiv has been in a political tailspin, buffeted by terrorist violence in Punjab

State, embarrassing election losses, and scandals in his administration.

A national opinion poll last summer said Rajiv's party could lose its large parliamentary majority against a united opposition.

In a re-election bid, Rajiv would be "helped by the family lore and the security that many Indians associate with the Nehru-Gandhi name. The opposition has only ruled for a chaotic, two-year period in the late 1970s."

Countering that, however, are a growing disenchantment and a sense, even in far-flung rural areas, that he has bungled his chance to rule.

"Rural India is very clear about who it wants to reward and who it wants to punish," says Ashis Nandy, an analyst at the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies. "In rural areas, people think Mrs Gandhi was more sympathetic to the lower groups. They see her son as having betrayed that inheritance." The Christian Science Monitor.



By Mark S. Del Vecchio

NANJING, China, (UPI): Protests and racial violence aimed at black African students have stripped away Chinese propaganda to reveal deep-seated racism encouraged by official policies and attitudes.

"Kill the black devils," shouted some Chinese students and city residents last week as they took to the streets demanding the government prosecute Africans involved in a Christmas Eve brawl with Chinese at a college campus.

The demonstrations and high emotions show the emptiness of Chinese slogans trumpeting growing "friendship" between Chinese and African peoples as Third World allies.

About 1,500 African students study at colleges in China. Many have long complained of racial harassment. Violence and protests have erupted since the 1960s.

"Just 'black devil' — that is a Chinese 'hello' to me," said a Congolese man who has studied in Nanjing for three years.

Unrest reveals face of Chinese racism

The Chinese generally dislike blacks. They consider black African students to be not grateful enough for the Chinese government scholarships that enable them to study at universities here.

Discourage

Black Africans also are allegedly too "free" with Chinese women, a criticism that comes easily from a race that discourages intermarriage even in the United States.

But though prejudice against foreigners, particularly blacks, is common in China, it was in this city of 3 million on the Yangtze River that it erupted into violence and passionate protests.

Nanjing is a city that feels more like a small town. Its people are unaccustomed to outsiders.

Stares greet foreigners. Children who spy a white face chant "Lao Wai," slang for foreigner

which often has racist overtones.

The elderly gape open-mouthed for only a moment, long enough for one to sense the strangeness they feel when looking at someone who simply is not Chinese.

Conversations with residents are tinged with anger and prejudice and peppered with openly racist remarks.

"They have no morality, no civilization," one Nanjing street Hawker said of black students. "The blacks are just savages," said a taxi driver. "If there were 1 I would have thrown rocks and beat them as well."

The fuse in Nanjing was lit Dec 24 when African students and Hehai University employees fought over rules requiring visitors to register before attending a campus party.

Attacks

Two Africans and 11 Chinese were injured in the brawl. This sparked attacks on students by Chinese and five days of street protests in this city 600 miles (965 km) southeast of Beijing.

Elements beyond simple Chinese dislike of blacks or distrust of foreigners entered the protests.

Dissatisfaction came to centre on the government's granting of special privileges that have effectively put foreigners outside Chinese law.

"This is China and they should obey Chinese laws," said a Chinese Hehai University student who was among the demonstrators. "If the blacks are not prosecuted, Chinese law is empty."

Foreigners in China live in segregated housing and enjoy access to stores where scarce and imported goods are sold. They are rarely stopped for traffic violations and, though some have been expelled for criminal violations, are never prosecuted.

At colleges, foreign students live in relatively comfortable but segregated dormitories, enjoy better living conditions and receive higher stipends than their Chinese counterparts.

West Berlin's scandal turns spotlight on security service

By Martin Nesirky

WEST BERLIN, (Reuters): It has all the ingredients of a spy novel and just the right setting.

West Berlin's latest political scandal has turned the spotlight on the city's security service and interior minister just weeks before a Jan 29 election and given what threatened to be a dull campaign an exciting new twist.

"It's all there," said one Western diplomat, "allegations of bugs and agents, the political intrigue and it's all happening in Berlin — the cold war capital of espionage."

The row surfaced when the opposition Social Democrats (SPD) alleged last month that West Berlin's Office for the Protection of the Constitution (OPC) recruited former East German Steffen Telschow to quiz Erich Paetzold, and SPD member of the city's parliament.

Bugged

The left-wing newspaper Tageszeitung said the OPC had infiltrated its offices, bugged the building and intercepted mail. The SPD said the service had compiled special reports on members. The left-wing alternative Liste made similar charges.

Interior Senator (minister) Wilhelm Kewenig, who controls the service, dismissed the whole affair as electioneering. The OPC was "not a mixture of a play group and mad house," he said.

He denied the OPC had spied on the Tageszeitung.

The service did keep files on

West Berlin Communist Party members' contacts with SPD politicians. This was legitimate but could have been misinterpreted, he said.

The Christian Democrats (CDU), senior partners in the ruling coalition with the Liberal Free Democrats (FDP), said opposition tactics over the scandal showed they lacked firm policies and could find little else to attack.

The SPD, under their West Berlin leader Walter Momper, countered this by saying they would much rather be talking about the city's high unemployment and severe housing shortages.

Inquiry

But they refused to let go of the scandal and eventually the government agreed to launch a rare parliamentary inquiry into the activities of the OPC — a counter-espionage and anti-subversion agency with 336 employees.

OPC Chief Dieter Wagner told the investigating committee last week that Telschow, a former East German political prisoner, had been recruited in September to observe the "alternative scene" and had met Paetzold.

But Telschow was not asked to spy on the politician, Wagner told a public session of the committee. Most of the hearings are being held in secret in a bug-proof room at city hall.

Telschow told the committee French agents in West Berlin passed him to the OPC after he got to the West in February.

When the story broke the 24-year-old, who sported a head band and a casual leather jacket during the hearing, at first denied links with the OPC.

Aquino's commitment to improve lives of minorities will outflank rebels

By Yasmin Arquiza

BALABAN, Philippines, (AP): Congress will debate ways this month of fulfilling President Corason Aquino's promise of self-rule for Philippine minorities, a prospect that could ultimately deprive communist rebels of an important base in the northern Philippine mountains.

Politicians say the bill to establish autonomous regions in the Cordillera Mountains and in Muslim areas of the south will test Aquino's commitment to improve cultural minorities' lives.

Marxist rebels have operated for nearly 20 years in the Cordillera, an impoverished area where the insurgency has grown largely as a result of government neglect. The region is heavily infiltrated by rebels, and is one of the principal places in the Philippines where they have battled government forces.

The bill before Congress calls for establishment of a legislative assembly, led by a regional governor, with broad powers, including control over multinational corporations and resources of the area.

Religions

Its provisions would fulfill many of the demands of the 2 million people who live here, most of them members of minority tribes known collectively as Igorots. Many Igorots still cling to ancient tribal religions and customs and remain largely unassimilated into this country of 57 million people. Outsiders control the region's vast mineral and timber resources.

As early as 1970, the outlawed Communist Party of the Philippines identified the tribal minorities in the Cordillera region as potential allies in their mostly

rural-based insurgency.

"The vast majority of them live in the hinterlands and in areas most neglected and abused by the reactionary government," wrote Jose Maria Sison, founder of the party, in his 1971 book "Philippine Society and Revolution" — the "Bible" of the 20-year insurgency.

One local rebel leader told the Associated Press that the guerrilla New People's Army saw the mountainous region as a key to overall victory in the Philippines.

Base

"Early on, it was decided that the central revolutionary base would be established here," said a Cordillera Party leader, who calls himself "Ka (Comrade) Dangkas." He cited the region's inaccessibility and its relative proximity to Manila, which lies about 100 miles (160 kms) from the Cordillera's southernmost point.

Ka Dangkas, whose name means "who goes against the tide" in the Kalina dialect, said the rebels established fronts in the Visayas Islands in the centre of the Philippine archipelago and the southern island of Mindanao to draw government forces away from the Cordillera.

They suffered setbacks at first, when party ideologues failed to pay attention to regional problems and customs and treated the region as they did other parts of the country.

But a decision by former President Ferdinand Marcos to build a series of dams along the Chico River played into rebel hands. The dams would have flooded thousands of acres (hectares) of sacred, ancestral lands.

In 1981, the rebels created the Cordillera People's Democratic Front to exploit regional grievances to win recruits. The

Front manifesto promises self-rule for the Cordillera and equality with mainstream Filipinos.

Front members have infiltrated numerous villages around this town about 200 miles (320 kms) north of Manila in Kalangay province, one of five provinces in the Cordillera.

Ka Dangkas dismisses government promises of self-rule as "reformist", a pejorative term in the communist lexicon, because the central administration in Manila would still wield considerable authority over tribal minorities.

But Congressman William Claver, who represents Kalangay province in the House of Representatives, is optimistic that the bill will give local leaders the power they need to develop the region while protecting the interests of its inhabitants.

"We cannot move in the Cordillera because everything is decided in Manila," he told the Associated Press. Claver, a former provincial governor, complained that decisions "always centred on what is good for Manila and not what is good for the Cordillera."

Conditions

Conditions in the Cordillera are different from other parts of the country where rebels have operated, meaning a success for the autonomy programme here will not necessarily transfer to other regions. However, pacifying the Cordillera would let the government move a sizeable number of troops here to fight in other areas.

The mosaic of fighting between government and rebel forces is complex in the Philippines, with the opposite forces operating in 60 of the nation's 73 provinces. Flare-ups in the fighting shift frequently.

A new empress of Japan

By Yoko Wakatsuki

TOKYO, (UPI): It was an unprecedented love match from the moment Crown Prince Akihito of Japan met commoner Michiko Shoda on a tennis court in 1958.

The new emperor and empress of Japan were married a year later in the first marriage of a member of the Royal Japanese family to a commoner — a union blessed by Emperor Hirohito, who said the Imperial family needed "new blood."

Michiko, dubbed the "Cinderella Princess," was betrothed to Akihito, the new emperor of Japan, on April 20, 1959. Until then, successors to the 2600-year-old Chrysanthemum Throne chose their brides from a small circle of Japanese Royal families.

Although the new empress of Japan walks a step or two behind her husband during public appearances, the couple has brought a more modern image to the Japanese Royal family, departing from centuries-old traditions, for instance, in raising their own children.

Before World War II, the idea of a commoner marrying Crown Prince Akihito was out of the question. Even when it was announced that Michiko, the daughter of a wealthy businessman, would marry Akihito, the news brought protest from members of the extended royal family, who expected their daughters to vie for the privilege of marrying into the Imperial family. But Emperor Hirohito supported the match.

Petite, fashion-conscious Michiko, who often wears a small pillbox hat in her public appearances, is the oldest daughter of Hidesaburo Shoda, the retired former president of the Nishin Flour Milling Company, the largest flour miller in Japan.

Born on Oct. 20, 1934, Michiko, her sister and two brothers were brought up in a carefree atmosphere by liberal parents in a large, English-style

house in central Tokyo. She attended the best schools and spent vacations at family villas in resort areas near Tokyo.

Michiko, who majored in English and speaks English fluently, graduated from Sacred Heart University in Tokyo where she was valedictorian of her class and president of the student body.

She is also interested in foreign languages, history, Western classical music, and children's literature.

At the age of 20, she competed with almost 5,000 others to win second prize in national essay contest on her wishes for the future.

In her school days, Michiko was popular with classmates and earned the nickname of "Temple-chan" after American child-star Shirley Temple because of her naturally wavy hair.

Michiko is fond of sports, particularly tennis. She and her husband first met at a tennis tournament where she defeated the young crown prince in a game and then offered him a towel. He was reportedly smitten at once.

Empress Michiko and her husband seem eager to create a modern image for Japan's Imperial family. When they appear in public, they usually exhibit intimacy and openness instead of the aloofness that has been practised by most members of Japanese royalty.

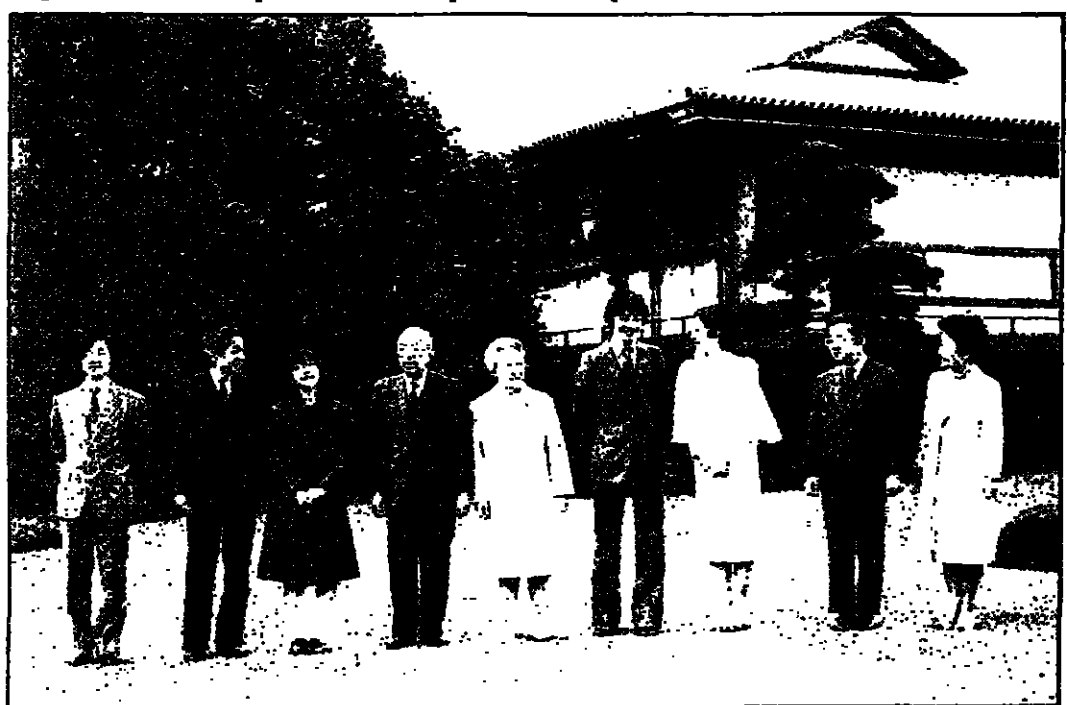
They have raised their three children, Crown Prince Hiro, Prince Aya and Princess Norin in an unorthodox way: instead of giving the three youngsters over to the care of Imperial Household officials they raised the children themselves.

In 1986, Michiko confessed that one of her regrets was that with so many royal duties, she has had too little time for her children.

Michiko, who is honorary vice-president of the Japanese Red Cross, often joined other volunteers to sew pajamas for children in hospitals, but has been too occupied in the last decade with official duties to continue the charity.



Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko of Japan — Reuters file picture.



The imperial family in happier days with late Emperor Hirohito. Empress Michiko is third from right.

Willy Brandt at 75: too busy to write memoirs

By Bjorn Edlund

BONN, (Reuters): One day, Willy Brandt says, he hopes to find time to write his memoirs.

But the former West German Chancellor, who won a Nobel peace prize for reconciling his country and East European nations savaged by Nazi war machine, is much too busy for retrospection.

"I try to work on my autobiography for half an hour now and then, but I'd much rather spend my time talking to people," Brandt recently told a gathering of foreign correspondents.

As president of the Socialist International, a grouping of social democratic parties, Brandt is lending his world prestige to help mediate in conflicts from Nicaragua to Kampuchea.

He slipped away to North Africa to avoid any celebrations of his 75th birthday last month, sternly instructing his Social Democratic Party (SDP) not to divulge his destination.

Exile

But Brandt, who in 1933 went into exile in Norway to escape Nazi persecution and began his postwar career as mayor of West Berlin, is too well known to enjoy the luxury of privacy.

The West German embassy in Cairo said he would be there at the weekend visiting the pyramids and other famous sights.

Among international tributes, Cuban leader Fidel Castro sent a gift that Brandt was certain to treasure — a bottle of well-aged Havana Club rum.

At home, the media examined his role as a rallying figure during the 1958 Soviet cold war blockade of West Berlin, his "ostpolitik" rapprochement with the East bloc in the early 1970s — and his downfall as chancellor in 1974 after an aide was unmasked as an East German spy.

Appearing on German television, Brandt — his craggy

face furrowed in deep lines — wove long pedantic sentences with his raspy voice to give interviewers his own version of a life of adventure and controversy.

A reporter took a question that for years dogged Brandt in attacks on him by conservatives, asking why he had chosen exile over resistance at home against the Nazis.

"I never felt that one had a duty to let oneself get locked up," Brandt simply said, talking of how he crisscrossed Europe with false papers for years until the outbreak of war.

The Gestapo secret police had been "sloppy" gathering information about him in Norway, he said. "When Hitler's Army invaded Norway in 1940 at the outset of World War Two, he escaped the Gestapo by slipping into a Norwegian Army uniform."

"I was at the Norwegian west coast, and thought that if I tried to return to Oslo in civilian clothes I would be checked by the Gestapo," he said. "In uniform, I was captured with a whole unit by the Wehrmacht (Army), and later released."

He said he went underground near Oslo for several weeks before the resistance organized an escape on foot to Sweden.

"I had my doubts about going to Sweden, because I thought at first it too would be invaded," Brandt said.

Born Herbert Frahm, an illegitimate son of a shop girl in the Baltic port of Luebeck, he took the name Willy Brandt in 1933. After Hitler came to power that year, he fled to Norway.

After the war, the Allies offered Brandt the job of mayor in his home town, but he chose to return to West Berlin as a major with Norway's military mission in the former German capital.

"I would have wasted my energy in Luebeck," he said. "In Berlin, there was no surplus of people who had gone through the war with their minds more or less in one piece."

It was as mayor, from 1957 to 1966 in the enclave inside communist-held East Germany, that Brandt became a world figure. During the cold war, he says, he also was "cold warrior."

In West Berlin, Brandt made his first contacts with the Russians, secretly meeting the Soviet East Berlin ambassador in the home of the Swedish consul general.

His "politics of small steps," running counter to rejectionist ideas in Bonn at the time, paid off. In 1970, as West Germany's first Social Democrat Chancellor, Brandt signed non-aggression treaties with the Soviet Union and Poland.

His 1970 gesture in kneeling spontaneously before a monument to the victims of the Warsaw ghetto symbolized the wish of a new Germany to atone for the atrocities of its recent past.

The horrors of the Nazi era had been partly known even to those in exile, Brandt told foreign reporters. "We heard about deportations of Jews, about gassing in lorries, but we found it difficult to believe that such atrocities were taking place."

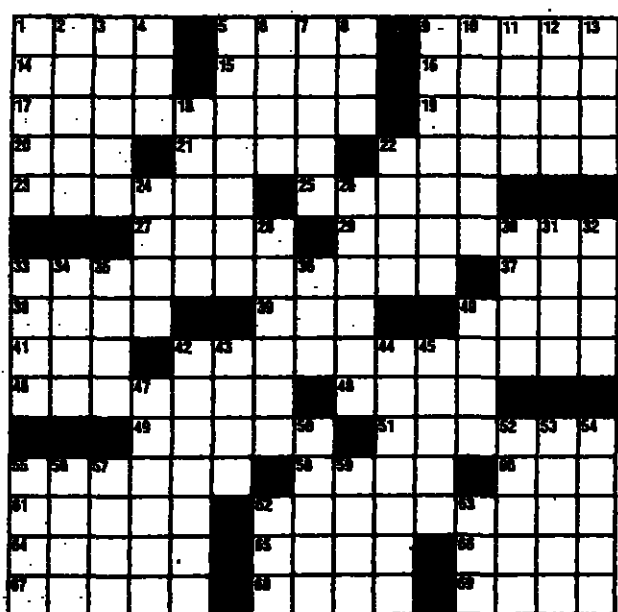
The full horror of Hitler's regime was brought home to Brandt when he helped interrogate Nazis who took part in the murder of six million European Jews.

"I asked a former police officer how he could have done these horrible deeds. He said he did not know. There had been orders. He hadn't told his wife what he did. He said he would not have been able to look her in the eyes if she had known."

If Brandt's fall from the chancellorship was inglorious, so was the end — in March 1987 — of his term as SPD leader.

Acquaintances, such as former British Prime Minister Harold Wilson, have said Brandt's weakness as a leader was that he was always influenced by intimate advisers — and he chose a friend of his 39-year-old third wife as SPD spokeswoman.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Rod's partner
 - day service
 - Mongolia or Helix
 - Bar connecting wheels
 - West German seaport
 - Flavoring for Christmas cookies
 - Filers plucky under fire?
 - Greek letter
 - Part of a royal flush
 - Bergman "Casablanca" role
 - "We are not —"
 - Leisurely walk
 - Light amplifier
 - Encourage
 - Break into smithereens
 - Flapper of long ago?
 - Conquistadors' quest
 - Grain spikes
 - What lawyers are called to
 - Made tracks
 - Stately tree
 - What golfer did seem cruel?
 - Wall material
 - Mother of Castor and Pollux
 - Christmas stolen ingredient
 - Sink down gradually
 - Looked narrowly
 - Western Samoa capital
 - Short term of endearment
- DOWN**
- Open up
 - A homemade Chinese soup?
 - Ethical
 - In addition
 - Ingredient
 - Flab
 - Carpenter's tool
 - Common adverbs
 - Eagle's nest
 - Works for sizar
 - Require
 - "Gantry": Lewis novel
 - Actress Remick
 - Artful
 - Tunes
 - Olympic prize
 - Overhead rail lines
 - Haggis ingredient
 - Safe and sound
 - Christmas presents for Dad
 - Where the sun rises in Spain
 - Interpret
 - Baggins of Tolkien's "The Hobbit"
 - Pallid
 - Crew members
 - Starry
 - Small drums
 - Had an effect
 - "...saw Elba"
 - Poked fun at
 - Sound from the nest
 - Hat or ship
 - Columbian
 - Bomb
 - Marquis' Mahtabel, for one
 - Student

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
INTENSIVE CARE

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
 ♠ A K 8 4
 ♥ Q 5 2
 ♦ 8 6 4 3
 ♣ Q 10

WEST
 ♠ 9 2
 ♥ 9 8 7 6 3
 ♦ Q J 10 7
 ♣ A 4

EAST
 ♠ Q J 7 6 5
 ♥ Void
 ♦ K 9 5 2
 ♣ 6 5 3 2

SOUTH
 ♠ 10 3
 ♥ A K J 10 4
 ♦ A
 ♣ K J 9 8 7

The bidding:

	South	West	North	East
1	♥	Pass	1	♥
2	♥	Pass	4	♥
3	♥	Pass	5	♥
4	NT	Pass	5	♥
6	♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♦

Bad trump breaks are not something you relish. However, they can be overcome. See if you can find a way to make your heart slam after a diamond lead. We'll even allow you to look at all four hands.

North-South reached six hearts on a power auction. There would

have been nothing to the hand had it not been for the 5-0 trump split.

Declarer won the opening lead and cashed the ace of hearts, and was stunned to learn the bad news. He led a club toward the queen. West ducked the first round, won the club continuation and forced declarer with a diamond. Now South ran his clubs, but West refused to ruff, instead discarding two spades and a diamond. Eventually he got to ruff a spade for down one.

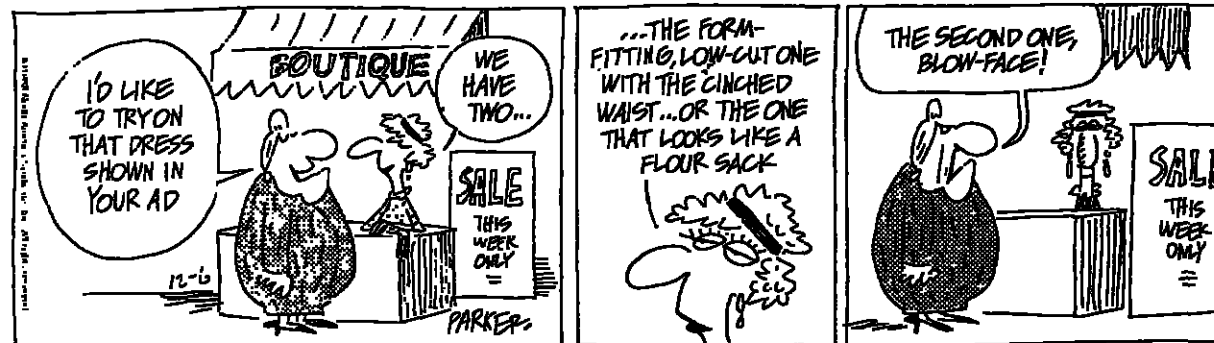
Had declarer gathered his wits after discovering the evil trump division, he might have realized that he was just one step away from making his contract. Before forcing out the ace of clubs, declarer should cash one high spade. That makes all the difference in the world.

Now when West forces declarer to ruff a diamond, he simply runs his clubs. If West ruffs, declarer overruffs in dummy, draws trumps and scores the rest of his clubs and a high spade for the fulfilling tricks. If West does not ruff, declarer discards all of dummy's spade on the clubs, and a spade ruff with the queen of trumps then becomes the 12th trick.



THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

Aries (March 20 - April 18)

This is going to be an interesting and eventful day for you. You will be able to deal with some outstanding matters. Venus' better influence will help you with your friends. Be a little more cautious.

Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You will be more capable of making a few changes. If you continue to be someone you will prevail over someone tending to behave irrationally. You should not take everything quite so literally. Be sensible.

Libra (Sept 22 - Oct. 22)

You will be better able to have a laugh at yourself and the situation you are in. Something you have set your heart upon will not place quite as you would have hoped. You must not lose the courage of your convictions. Be sincere.

Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 19

You will find it a little harder to adapt to circumstances, but given the will the way will come to you. You should avoid all kinds of exaggeration and should not exceed sane limits.

Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You would do well not to be quite so insistent. You should not take your responsibilities too lightly. Make sure you have your facts right and do not rely on guesswork. Be less negligent.

Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

You will have plenty of energy but make sure it is not dissipated. If you wait a little longer you will see the results of your actions. You must ensure that a discussion does not turn into an argument. Be generous.

Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov. 21)

Make sure you do not lose sight of your objectives. Also stick to your principles. You will be better able to fulfill your responsibilities. Be fair.

Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb. 18)

The Moon's more favourable influence will help to raise your spirits. A temptation to spend more than you can readily afford should be resisted. Work hard, but allow yourself enough leisure time. Be patient.

Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

You must beware of allowing yourself to take luck for granted. You should have a little more faith in yourself. There is no need for excessive pessimism but you should not be over-confident either. Be tolerant.

Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You will not feel quite on top form, but things are not as bad as they seem. You should keep calm when dealing with an irascible person. Mercury's influence will help you to deal with practical matters. Be moderate.

Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)

You will feel rather excitable and should do your best to calm yourself. You should not expect to have all things your own way. Avoid trying to take shortcuts. Be tactful.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

A personal matter will take up more of your time and energy. However you must not neglect what has to be done at work. Make sure you get all the rest you need and do not go short of vitamins. Be respectful.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

SARA AGRE BRANT
 AGAR POOF LAMIA
 PAIN PROTRUDING
 INNOCENT ASIDE
 DAY RAY ECHO
 HUR OBEISANT
 ANTIS ADORN NEO
 TEETH DON GRIST
 OVA IVORY CASTE
 PARTNERS MRS
 OGRE SIO LIT
 BARBS ANYWHERE
 BIARELEGGED EVEN
 ONIRO ARIA RENO
 BELOW MARY DIEER

Practical, low-cost, family-based ways of protecting lives and health of children

Facts for Life: UNICEF's new campaign

By Diane Diaz

EVERY year, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) publishes a report on the state of children in the world.

Starting in 1989, the organization, along with two other well-known UN organizations — UNESCO and the World Health Organisation (WHO) — will publish a new set of data, this time a list of "vital child health information which every family in the world should know."

The child health campaign will be called, "Facts for Life." UNICEF has not yet announced the date it will be launched, but has reported that it will be sometime at the beginning of the year.

According to information included in UNICEF's 1989 State of the World's Children report, "The basic idea behind 'Facts for Life' is simple.

"There exists today a body of information — old and new — which can help parents save to save the lives and protect the normal growth of many millions of children in the developing world."

That body of information will be published in a 60-page booklet that will initially be available in Arabic, English, French, Portuguese and Spanish. It will be targeted at developing countries in an effort to reduce child deaths and malnutrition over the next few years.

"It is intended to be the simplest and most authoritative expression of today's scientific consensus on practical, low-cost, family-based ways of protecting the lives and health of children," according to UNICEF's 1989 report.

A fact sheet about the new campaign lists the Facts for Life's top ten messages:

- The health of both women and children can be significantly improved by spacing births at least two years apart, by avoiding pregnancies before the age of 18, and by limiting the total number of pregnancies to four.
- To reduce the dangers of childbearing, all pregnant women should go to a health worker for pre-natal care and



A Bangladeshi mother carries her dead baby in her arms. Forty thousand children die like this every day in the developing world. Most of these deaths could now be prevented at very low cost, says the 1989 State of the World's Children report from UNICEF.

all births should be assisted by a trained person.

- For the first few months of a baby's life, breastmilk ALONE is the best possible food and drink. Infants need other foods, in addition to breastmilk, when they are four to six months old.

- Children under three have special feeding needs. They need to eat five or six times a day and their food should be specially enriched by adding mashed vegetables and small amounts of fats or oils.

- Diarrhoea can kill by drain-

ing too much liquid from a child's body. Liquid lost must be replaced by giving the child plenty of the right liquids to drink — breastmilk, diluted gruel, soup or a special drink called ORS. If the diarrhoea persists, the child needs help from a health care worker. The child also needs food to make a good recovery.

- Immunization protects against several diseases which can cause poor growth, disability and death. All immunizations should be completed in the first year of child's life.

Every woman of childbearing age should be immunized against tetanus.

- Most coughs and colds will get better on their own. But if a child with a cough is breathing much more rapidly than normal, then the child is seriously ill and needs to go to a health care quickly. A child with a cough or a cold should be helped to eat and drink plenty of liquids.

- Many illnesses are caused because germs enter the mouth. This can be prevented by using latrines (toilets), by washing

hands with soap and water after using the latrine and before handling food; by keeping food and water clean; and by boiling drinking water if it is not from a piped supply.

- Illnesses hold back a child's growth. After an illness, a child needs an extra meal every day for a week to make up for growth lost.

- Children between the ages of six months and three years should be weighed every month. If there is no gain in weight for two months, something is wrong.

Under the overall supervision of the World Health Organisation, Facts for Life was drawn up in partnership with nearly 100 of the world's best known organisations working for the health and development of children.

Though the information is designed to be straightforward, UNICEF's report admits that the real challenge comes in getting people to practice the health tips.

"Experience in all countries has shown that only frequent varied repetition of new information, from all sides and over many years and from many trusted sources, can truly succeed in putting new health knowledge at the disposal of the majority," the UNICEF report reads.

As a result, the Facts for Life campaign will include a plea to all influential people and organisations in developing countries to help spread the word.

It will be presented as a long-term communications challenge to heads of state, governments, religious leaders, educators, media, health care workers and others who could help change the way people deal with child health care issues.

The Facts for Life campaign comes a decade after the world celebrated the International Year of the Child. Since that time, statistics show children now have a better chance of survival. Yet the reality in developing countries is still grim. One third of all child deaths, for example, occur in just three countries: Bangladesh, India and Pakistan.

Child health: test your knowledge

1. For the health of mothers and children, what is the minimum time that should be allowed between giving birth and becoming pregnant again?

- (a) ☐ 6 months.
(b) ☐ 9 months.
(c) ☐ 12 months.
(d) ☐ 15 months.

2. For health reasons, a woman should not become pregnant before she is how old?

- (a) ☐ 14 years.
(b) ☐ 16 years.
(c) ☐ 18 years.
(d) ☐ 20 years.

3. At what age should a baby be given other foods in addition to breast-milk?

- (a) ☐ 0-2 months.
(b) ☐ 2-4 months.
(c) ☐ 4-6 months.
(d) ☐ 6-12 months.

4. A child under the age of three needs feeding how many times a day?

- (a) ☐ The same as adults.
(b) ☐ 5 or 6 times a day.

5. After an illness, it is better to

- (a) ☐ Feed a child only at meal times and let the stomach rest in between.
(b) ☐ Let the child feed as often as he or she wants.

6. By what age should a child be fully immunized?

- (a) ☐ 6 months.
(b) ☐ 1 year.
(c) ☐ 18 months.
(d) ☐ 2 years.

7. Is it safe to immunize a child who has a cough or cold, or who has ordinary diarrhoea or fever?

- (a) ☐ Yes.
(b) ☐ No.

The following 12 questions, drawn from *Facts for Life*, will test how much you and your family know about child health. Choose which boxes to tick, then check your answers at the end.

8. If a child has diarrhoea, it is best to

- (a) ☐ Not give the child anything to eat or drink for a day or two.
(b) ☐ Let the child eat but not drink too much.

9. Which two of the following statements are correct?

- (a) ☐ Diarrhoea is a nuisance but not serious.
(b) ☐ Diarrhoea can kill a child.
(c) ☐ Diarrhoea is caused by germs from faeces entering the mouth.
(d) ☐ Diarrhoea can be caused by teething.

10. Tick any of the following statements which you believe to be correct

- (a) ☐ Breast-feeding helps protect a child against colds.
(b) ☐ Crowded rooms help spread coughs and colds.
(c) ☐ A child with a cough or cold should be kept warm.

(d) ☐ A child with a cough or cold should be given plenty of liquids.
(e) ☐ A child with a cough or cold should not drink much liquid.
(f) ☐ A child who sleeps in smoky surroundings is more likely to have respiratory illness.
(g) ☐ If a child has a cough or cold, breathing much more rapidly than normal is a sign of pneumonia.
(h) ☐ People with coughs and colds should be kept away from young babies.

11. Which of these actions can prevent illness?

- (a) ☐ Washing hands before handling food.
(b) ☐ Boiling drinking water (if it is not piped).
(c) ☐ Keeping food clean and covered.
(d) ☐ Burning or burying household rubbish.
(e) ☐ Making sure food is thoroughly cooked.

12. Which of the following statements is correct?

- (a) ☐ AIDS can be cured.
(b) ☐ AIDS is passed on mainly by sexual intercourse.
(c) ☐ AIDS can be caught by hugging and kissing infected people.
(d) ☐ AIDS can be spread by telephones, toilet seats, towels, and swimming pools.
(e) ☐ AIDS can be passed from man to woman.
(f) ☐ AIDS can be passed from woman to man.
(g) ☐ AIDS can be passed from man to man.

Question 1. (d) There should be a space of at least two years between births, so that means waiting 15 months after a birth before becoming pregnant again.

Question 2. (c) The risks are greater if a woman becomes pregnant before the age of 18.

Question 3. (c) Breast-milk is all the food and drink a baby needs before the age of 4 to 6 months — after that most babies need other foods in addition to breast-milk.

Question 4. (b) A child's energy needs are proportionately greater than an adult's but the stomach is smaller — so a child needs feeding more frequently, and with more energy-rich foods.

Question 5. (b) The body loses food in times of illness because of poor appetite, or poor absorption of food, or diarrhoea, or fever. Nature provides a catch up period in the few days after an illness, so the child should have extra food at that time.

Question 6. (b) It is essential that all vaccinations are performed before the child's first birthday — delay can be dangerous.

Question 7. (a) Yes, minor illnesses are not a reason for not vaccinating.

Question 8. (c) The main danger of diarrhoea is dehydration.

So the liquid lost must be replaced by giving the child plenty of the right liquids to drink — breast-milk, diluted gruel, soup, or a special drink called ORS. Diarrhoea can also cause malnutrition and a child needs food to make a good recovery.

Question 9. (b) and (c) Diarrhoea is the most common cause of death among the world's young children and is caused by germs from faeces entering the mouth.

Question 10. All of the statements are correct except e. Question 11. All of the statements are correct.

Question 12. The correct statements are (b), (c), (d), and (g).



A young Indian boy about eight years old works in a sweatshop.

Report raps UK carpet firm over involvement in child-slavery racket

Treading on India's most poverty-stricken children

The anti-slavery society's two-year investigation into India's oriental carpet industry reveals an appalling catalogue of child labour, harsh working conditions... and outright slavery.

By Kevin Tools

A MAJOR British firm is accused of involvement in a child-slavery racket.

The Glasgow-based Scottish Heritable Trust, whose directors include former Coal Board boss Sir Ian MacGregor, is attacked in a recent report by the Anti-Slavery Society.

Children as young as five have been kidnapped and sold to loom owners working for the company's Indian subsidiary, E. Hill & Co., which buys carpets from 6,000 looms in the state of Uttar Pradesh.

The society's two-year investigation into India's oriental carpet industry reveals an appalling catalogue of child labour, harsh working condi-

tions... and outright slavery.

About 15,000 boys have been stolen from their parents or sold into bonded labour slavery — working all their lives for a pittance to repay 'debts' to their loom-owning bosses.

Some of the boys are: BRANDED with hot iron rods, and BEATEN with bamboo canes if they try to escape or don't work fast enough.

And it was discovered that nearly all of India's 100,000 'carpet boys' were forced to work long hours in isolated huts, hand-knotting luxury carpets for Western firms which sell them to stores like Harrods, John Lewis, Waring & Gillow and Debenhams in the UK.

An investigator found two



Working for a pittance and denied proper medical care or education, a child hand-knots luxury carpets which are then sold in top Western stores.

"wretched" eight-year-olds working alone on a loom for a carpet for Scottish Heritable.

- Both were malnourished and one was ill.
- Both had been full-time weavers since they were five.
- And both worked more than eight hours a day.

Nearly all of India's carpet boys are denied proper medical treatment or education, says the report.

They are often on little more than a starvation diet — and if they are paid at all it is at the rate of just 25 pence a week.

Yet salesmen from Eastern

Kayam OCM — Scottish Heritable Trust's London-based wholesale carpet arm — offered the same carpets to sell for up to £3,500.

And the Anti-Slavery Society has accused British businessmen, who control the major share of the Indian wholesale carpet market, of turning a blind eye to the weavers' feudal working conditions.

Society spokesman Alan Whitaker said: "There's no doubt that the state and national government in India — and Indian and British

businessmen — know of this child slavery.

"People who buy these carpets are treading on India's most poverty stricken children."

Scottish Heritable, which made £64 million profit last year, is the world's biggest oriental carpet wholesaler, supplying every major British retailer.

But Sir Ian MacGregor dismissed criticism, saying: "Conditions are grim in China, too — and they sell carpets."

And Robin Garland, company spokesman and fellow

The report says children work on a starvation diet.

director of Scottish Heritable insisted: "We aren't making money out of slavery. If any weavers use bonded labour or refuse to pay the weavers' wages, they won't work for us again."

Britain's big stores have been studying the report. Waring & Gillow director, Peter Harrison, said: "We'll consider the findings and talk to suppliers."

And a Harrods and House of Fraser spokesman said the company had sent its own team to investigate child-slavery. "We have taken every step to ensure our oriental carpets are not produced by child labour."

Indian High Commission spokesman, Rajesh Parsad, said: "We'll study the report carefully and pass it to Delhi for investigation."

FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

VERTIGO CAN BE EASED WITH MEDICINE, EXERCISE

QUESTION: I have a problem that has been with me for some time now. I get a feeling that the whole world is spinning, usually when I am getting out of bed in the morning. That's the worst time, although I can also feel this way when I get out of a chair or a car that I have been riding in for some time. I have no other symptoms but am afraid of what the doctor may tell me. Could I have your opinion first, please? I'm 71.

ANSWER: Your description of your condition is very helpful, but without the physical examination that your own physician will be able to conduct, my opinion is really nothing more than an educated guess. For what it's worth, here it is:

You are describing a true vertigo, a sensation that everything is moving about you, rather than an episode of light-headedness (which could lead me to another conclusion). They have occurred repeatedly, over a period of time, yet nothing else has happened and there are no other complaints or additional symptoms, so it doesn't sound like a condition that is getting worse or progressing.

I believe you suffer from Benign Positional Vertigo. It's common in women of your age or in people who have suffered a

head injury. It will only occur when you change a position, and shouldn't last for more than a minute or two, if you remain still.

What's lacking for my evaluation is an observation of your eye movements. Your own physician may be able to provoke the sensation using a technique called the Hallpike Manoeuvre (Hallpike is the doctor who discussed these conditions over 35 years ago). By rapidly moving you backward while you are sitting on the examination table, so that your head extends past the end of the table and hangs down at a 45-degree angle, and turning your head to the left, your symptoms may be provoked, and the movement of your eyes observed. If nystagmus occurs (a rapid involuntary movement of the eyeballs, in this case in a circular pattern) it is most probable that my diagnosis is correct, and that you have nothing to fear.

A series of exercises or a medication may be all you need to reduce your problem considerably, and without the anxiety it has caused, you will probably feel much better indeed.

QUESTION: I suffered from a terrible attack of shingles. While the rash is now

gone, the pain hasn't. Nothing seems to control it, even though I've taken everything. My friend tells me he read where red peppers could do me some good, but I don't know how to fix them. Is there anything you could say to help me?

ANSWER: It's not Cajun cooking you need. What you're looking for is an oil made from plants of the capsicum family, a family that includes cayenne or red pepper, and is said to reduce the pain in cases of shingles (doctors call it herpes zoster). A purified form of this extract is called capsaicin (sold under the brand name of Zostrix) apparently works in these cases.

Scientists believe that a chemical, called Substance P, may play a role in transmitting pain and that when capsaicin is used in a cream, applied to the area of pain, it works to neutralize the action of Substance P. Although the medication is available in rather low concentrations, reports are that it works well.

Currently they are investigating the use of higher concentrations, which apparently is even more effective in controlling the pain that become chronic in many shingles sufferers.

1989 TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES, INC.

ANDY CAPP



By Smith

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Qatar awards \$400m loan mandate for gas project

BAHRAIN, Jan. 9. (Reuters): Qatar has awarded the mandate for a \$400 million loan to fund development of its vast North Field gas reservoir to a group of nine banks, the Bahrain-based Gulf International Bank (GIB) said today.

The bank said in a statement GIB, the Doha-based Arab Petroleum Investment Corporation (APICORP) and the Kuwait-based Gulf Investment Corporation (GIC) were included in the three-year loan facility for Qatar General Petroleum Corp (QGPC).

Banking sources said the loan, priced at 22.5 basis points above the London interbank offered rate (LIBOR) was divided equally at \$44 million each among all the banks.

The syndication would begin on Jan. 11 and another participant, Britain's National Westminster Bank PLC, would see the deal on the market, the bankers said. QGPC is expected to sign the loan in March.

Other banks included in the package are Japan's Bank of Tokyo Ltd, Mitsubishi Bank Limited, Chase Investment Bank Limited, Qatar National Bank and the Jeddah-based Riyad Bank.

Work on the first stage of the project, which will tap a 350 trillion cubic feet reservoir of gas lying beneath shallow Gulf waters 30 miles off Qatar, began in mid-1987.

QGPC officials say 800 million cubic feet a day of natural gas will be produced for local use when the first phase is complete in 25 months.

Qatar has allocated funds from the sale of 40,000 barrels per day of its crude production for the project and has so far financed work with its own money.

EEC economy set to grow faster than in 12 years

MADRID, Jan. 9. (Reuters): The European Economic Community in 1989 will have its fastest economic growth for 12 years with the creation of 1.6 million new jobs, Jacques Delors, president of the EEC's Executive Commission, said today.

Delors said at a joint news conference with Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez that the rate of job creation would be double its 1988 level of 800,000 in the 12-nation community.

Investment was set to reach its highest level for 20 years.

Burden
Spain, which has just taken over the rotating presidency of the EEC Council of Ministers, where most decisions on community policy are taken, faced a crowded agenda over the coming six months, Delors said.

Spain's presidency would bear almost the entire burden of negotiating an aid pact with African, Caribbean and Pacific nations linked to the community through the Lome Convention.

The community could also make a major contribution to relations between industrialised nations and the developing world by helping to secure tariff reductions in talks within the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), Delors said.

"Following a mid-term review (of GATT talks) in Montreal in December, it is very important that they advance."

Proposals
A committee of EEC central bank governors and independent monetary experts chaired by Delors would present proposals on achieving monetary and economic union to Spanish Prime Minister Gonzalez at the end of April, he said.

EEC leaders are due to discuss the proposals at a June summit in the Spanish capital.

Italy opens trade centre in Dubai
DUBAI, Jan. 9. (Reuters): Italy opened a trade centre in Dubai today, its fifth in the Gulf.

"With the start of peace in the region it has become necessary to develop trade," said Marsilio Engblazi, head of Italy's Foreign Trade Authority, in a reference to the ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war last August.

Dubai, the second largest of the United Arab Emirates, signed an economic and technical co-operation agreement with Italy in 1984. Italy also has commercial centres in Iran, Iraq, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

Oeien winds up visit

Kuwait concerned at Norwegian oil output jump

KUWAIT, Jan. 9. (Reuters): Kuwait is concerned at a planned 44 per cent jump in Norway's oil output this year but accepts that it will go ahead, Norwegian Oil Minister Arne Oeien said today.

"The Kuwaitis are concerned about the increase in Norwegian production, but they accepted the constraints we're operating under and the limited room for manoeuvre," Oeien told reporters at the end of a three-day visit.

Norway's increase coincides with plans by Kuwait and the other members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to reduce their output to raise world prices.

Output
Non-OPEC Norway, Western Europe's biggest oil producer after Britain, plans to increase output to an average 1.44 million barrels per day (BPD) in the first half of 1989 from one million during the second half of last year, Oeien said.

OPEC states have expressed concern at increased output by non-OPEC producers which they say threatens OPEC's ability to boost world prices.

Under a pact that came into effect on Jan. 1, OPEC has pledged to hold output to 18.5 million BPD to achieve a target world oil price of \$18 a barrel from about

\$15 now.

Oeien said he did not think prices would rise much in coming months even if all OPEC states adhered to their output quotas.

"Even if OPEC sticks to their quotas with only minor deviations we shall be happy if we can keep the prices at the present level up till spring," he said.

"After that it depends on the quotas for the next half year and how well they will be kept. So there is some possibility of price increases after that."

The widely traded North Sea Brent crude was quoted in Singapore today at \$16.15 a barrel for February delivery. Dubai crude, the main Middle East benchmark, was around \$13.65.

"I will be very happy to see any increase in the first months (of 1989) above \$15 (for Brent). But I don't expect it," Oeien said.

Move
He held talks on Saturday with HH the Amir and Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Al Khalifa amid intensified contacts between producers in and outside OPEC on ways to stabilise the oil market.

Oeien also visited the headquarters of the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) and met the acting secretary-general



Abdelaziz Alwattari (right) acting secretary-general of OAPEC in talks with Norwegian Oil Minister Arne Oeien. Hans W. Longva, Norwegian ambassador to Kuwait also accompanied the minister.

Abdelaziz Alwattari. The officials discussed developments in the Arab and world oil and energy industries as well as the activities of the OAPEC.

In a unilateral move to help OPEC, Norway has agreed to keep production at 7.5 per cent below capacity.

Oeien said Norway's produc-

tion capacity would rise to 1.6 million BPD by the end of 1989 with the coming on stream of new fields. He said he expected capacity to peak in 1992 and 1993 at 1.75 million BPD.

Oeien said Norway had no immediate plans for new measures to restrain output and that this year's long-planned production increase would be

difficult to stop. But he added, "the world is constantly changing, and we shall adjust to (any) new situations as it appears."

He said Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland had been invited to visit Kuwait by HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah.

Plan to increase defence spending

Reagan proposes \$1.15 trillion '90 US budget

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9. (Reuters): President Reagan today proposed a \$1.15-trillion fiscal 1990 budget for the United States that would increase spending for defence and some domestic programmes while reducing the deficit without raising taxes.

The proposal provides for government revenues of \$1.06 trillion which would bring the deficit to \$92.5 billion. That compares with a deficit of \$161.6 billion during the current fiscal year which ends Sept 30 and a \$100-billion deficit limit for fiscal 1990 set by law.

Dismissed
Reagan submitted his budget plan just 11 days before he hands the reins of power to President-elect Bush. Reagan's budget plan already has been dismissed by congressional Democrats who said they want to see Bush's proposals.

Bush has said he will not propose dramatic changes to Reagan's budget after he takes the oath of office on Jan 20 but will modify it with his own priorities.

Bush pledged throughout his presidential campaign to cut the huge US federal budget deficit without raising taxes but even some of his Republican backers have expressed doubts that he can do it.

Plan
The Reagan plan in many ways reflects the priorities outlined by Bush in his campaign. The budget plan leaves social security untouched and provides for increases in AIDS research and prevention and drug enforcement and reduces the deficit without new taxes.

In a radio interview today, White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said that Bush's

nominee for Office of Management and Budget Director Richard Darman was consulted during the drafting of the budget plan and Bush's team made no changes.

Promised
Bush also promised to increase spending for education programmes. The Reagan budget plan provides for a \$200-million increase in education spending, but would do away with 25 department of education programmes. The Reagan budget proposes eliminating a total of 80 federal programmes.

The Reagan plan provides for an increase in defence spending of two per cent above the inflation rate. Reagan proposed a total \$315.2-billion defence budget, which includes current year spending and obligations for future spending. Congress approved a \$298.8-billion defence budget in the current fiscal 1989 year.

Expansion
The Reagan budget assumes that the current economic expansion now in its 74th month, will continue. The budget assumes that the gross national product, the total of goods and services produced in the United States, will grow by 3.5 per cent from the fourth quarter of 1988 to the fourth quarter of 1989 and by 3.4 per cent from the fourth quarter of 1989 to the end of 1990.

Inflation, as measured by the consumer price index, was forecast to rise by 3.6 per cent from the fourth quarter of 1988 to the end of 1989 and by 3.5 per cent from the fourth quarter of 1989 to the end of 1990.

Reagan's deficit numbers rely in large part on continued economic expansion.

If the GNP is one percentage point lower in fiscal 1990, then government tax receipts would drop by \$6.7 billion and spending would be \$1.9 billion higher, the budget document said.

If the lower growth continued, the deficit would be \$83 billion higher than originally projected for 1994, the budget document said.

If Congress enacts all of Reagan's budget proposals, an outcome that is highly unlikely, the federal budget would enjoy a \$2.4-billion surplus in fiscal 1993, the document said.

Reagan proposed an 18 per cent reduction in agriculture spending, a proposal that already has been criticised by farm groups.

The outgoing president also proposed spending \$64 billion through 1994 for bailing out failing savings and loan institutions. That includes \$16 billion for the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corp (FSLIC) in the current fiscal 1989 and \$9 billion in fiscal 1990, the budget document said.

Bailout
The president, in his message to Congress, said the Secretary of Treasury will soon submit a detailed plan on the savings and loan bailout to Bush.

The budget also provides for \$18 billion to be spent for nuclear weapons facilities cleanup and modernisation through 1994.

The president also said additional money was needed for international affairs to promote US foreign policy and national security interests particularly in the Middle East and Central America.

The budget also proposes a special programme to foster

Hungary unveils sweeping price hikes

BUDAPEST, Jan. 9. (AP): The Hungarian government yesterday announced a series of sweeping price hikes the official trade union leadership has warned may spawn strikes unless swift wage and social reforms are enacted.

The price increases will cost every consumer an average 800 forints, or \$25 per month, a figure amounting to about ten per cent of the average national

per capita earnings per month.

As of today, dairy products will go up 40 per cent, pharmaceuticals 82 per cent, although drugs for treating serious diseases will be decreased or become free, said state secretary Bela Szikszay, president of the National Price Office.

Rises
He told the Vasarnapi Hirek Sunday newspaper that car prices are to increase by between

13 and 38 per cent.

A Hungarian government announcement quoted by the state news agency MTI later detailed more price rises.

It said prices of beef will go up by 30 per cent, while pork, poultry and meat preparations will increase by 13-14 per cent.

Lard, vegetable oil, margarine, flour and bakery products will be 15-16 per cent more expensive.

World Business Summary

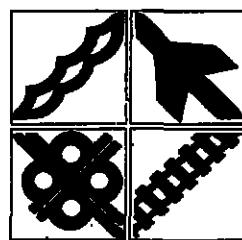
US bank to suspend new lending operations

NEW YORK, Jan. 9. (Reuters): The US Export-Import Bank, which makes below-market-value loans to buyers of US exports, has decided to suspend new lending operations because of Reagan administration budget cuts, the New York Times today reported officials as saying. The newspaper said the government agency's action is expected to provoke criticism in Congress and the business community and was taken at an unpublished meeting of the bank's board on Friday. It said the action followed a decision to eliminate the bank's lending authority in the administration's budget for the fiscal year 1990. A spokesman for the bank refused to comment on the report in advance of publication of the budget. Although Congress and the Bush administration may restore money for the lending programmes, the board's move could have a temporary chilling effect on exports when the United States is trying to cut a trade deficit estimated at \$130 billion for last year, the newspaper said. In 1981, when the Export-Import Bank last suspended lending activities, many business groups suffered export losses. "Ex-Im Bank lending is an essential tool in the existing regime of world trade. Getting rid of the tool is a bad idea," the newspaper quoted an aide to Senator John Heinz, a Republican member of the Senate Finance Committee, as saying. Congress authorised Export-Import Bank direct loans up to \$695 million for the current fiscal year, an amount which could be exhausted by this March, the newspaper quoted Willard Berry, a spokesman for the National Foreign Trade Council, as saying.

BHP signs merger pact

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 9. (Reuters): Australia's largest public company, Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited (BHP), said yesterday it has signed a definitive agreement for a friendly takeover of the Honolulu oil firm Pacific Resources Inc (PRI). Under terms of the merger agreement, approved by the companies' boards and the board of Honolulu-based Alexander Baldwin Inc (AB), which owns one-third of PRI stock, BHP will make a cash tender offer for all of PRI's common stock. BHP will pay \$19 per share of common stock and \$28.37 per share of convertible exchangeable preferred stock in the merger deal. The tender offer is expected to open this week and the transaction is to be completed by the end of June, PRI said. PRI will maintain its corporate identity after the merger and continue to operate its 80,000 barrel per day refinery and downstream marketing activities, a company spokesman said. The merger is conditional, among other things, on approval by regulatory agencies. PRI currently has about 20.8 million shares outstanding. PRI's common shares closed on Friday at \$13.75 and the preferred closed at \$23.37. BHP said it plans to move its international oil trading and marketing group to Honolulu from Australia. Peter Willcox, chief executive officer of BHP Petroleum, said in a statement: "The acquisition of PRI is a significant step in BHP Petroleum's world-wide strategic plan."

"BHP Petroleum is one of only two large international oil companies that does not have any refining and marketing operations. PRI will serve to integrate our petroleum activities and help reduce potential earnings volatility." "Furthermore, PRI will be a centerpiece for our further expansion into the refining, marketing and petroleum trading businesses in the high-growth Pacific Basin market," he said.



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C.N. Merzario and Euroasia Container Line (Division of Contiship Container Lines Ltd) will enter into a Joint Service between North Europe, Pakistan and the West Coast of India. Euroasia will continue to serve Aqaba on this service and C.N. Merzario will provide feeder connections at Dubai for all main Gulf Ports, Muscat and Kandla. Ports served directly will be Felixstowe, Hamburg, Rotterdam and Le Havre in North Europe, Karachi and Bombay in the sub-continent, with additional eastbound calls at Aqaba and Dubai. Four vessels of approx. 1,000 Teu capacity will be employed providing fortnightly sailings.

The service will commence with M/V Dorothee sailing from Hamburg 4th February, Rotterdam 6th February, Felixstowe 7th February and Le Havre 8th February.

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LONDON (Alpha Stocks)

NAME	LAST	191.0
ABBEY LIFE	295/0	204.0
ADT LTD	120/0	274.0
ALD LYONS	439/0	427/0
AMSTRAD	71.00	552/0
ARGYLL GP	169/0	377/0
ASDA GP	138/0	485.0
BAA	270/0	293.5
BTR	306/0	353/0
BAT INDS	451.0	353/0
BARCLAYS	413/0	353/0
BASS	808/0	353/0
BEAZER	79.00	353/0
BEECHAMS	478.0	353/0
BERSFORD	412/0	353/0
BICC PLC	393.0	353/0
BLUE ARMY	92/0	353/0
BLUE CIRC	449.0	353/0
BOC GP	425/0	353/0
BOOTS CO	236.0	353/0
BRP INDS	224.0	353/0
BR COM	207.0	353/0
BR AEROS	156/0	353/0
BR GAS RT	445/0	353/0
BR GAS RT	158.0	353/0
BR LAND	335/0	353/0
B.P.	254.0	353/0
B.P. PP	149.0	353/0
BR STEEL	63.0	353/0
BURMAN OL	504.0	353/0
BURTON	172.0	353/0
CABLEVISION	367/0	353/0
CALOR GRP	385/0	353/0
CALSONIC	685/0	353/0
CRLTN R T	675/0	353/0
COURTALD	265.0	353/0
DALGETY	316/0	353/0
DIXONS	139.0	353/0
ENG CHINA	443/0	353/0
ENTER OIL	494.0	353/0
FBI BACK	124.0	353/0
FIDELITY	102/0	353/0
GATEWAY	246/0	353/0
GEN ACCID	865/0	353/0
GEN ELEC	220/0	353/0
GLAXO	998.0	353/0
GRANDAD	327/0	353/0
GLOBE	142/0	353/0
GUARDIAN	269/0	353/0
GLYMED RYL	183/0	353/0
GKN	303/0	353/0
GUINNESS	339/0	353/0
HAVERSHAM	923/0	353/0
HARRISON A	163/0	353/0
HARRISON S	672/0	353/0
HILLSDOWN	558.0	353/0
ICI	238.0	353/0

LONDON (Beta Stocks)

NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
2ND ALICE	733/0	739/0
600 GROUP	113/0	113/0
A.AMER TS	368/0	368/0
A.S.W.HLD	365/0	364/0
AAB KENT	86/0	85/0
AAN HLD	283/0	283/0
AARONSON	115/0	115/0
ADDISON	29/0	29/0
ADVEST	167/0	168/0
ALEX UNIC	155/0	156/0
ALEXON	315/0	315/0
ALDO COLL	122/0	123/0
ALDO IR 8	245/0	245/0
ALDO LND	129/0	130/0
ALDO PLMT	63/0	64/0
ALLIANCE	829/0	834/0
AMER DAY	40/4	40/4
AMEC	337/0	339/0
AMER TST	126/4	127/0
AMERSON	506/0	509/0
AMT HLTVC	199/0	199/0
ANGLIA TV	199/0	199/0
ANGLIA TV	199/0	199/0
APPLYEAR	382/0	382/0
APV PLC	132/0	133/0
AUSLEY LA	92/0	91/0
AUS REE A	214/0	214/0
AUST REE	360/0	360/0
AUTO SECS	238/0	238/0
AVDEL PLC	94.5	95.0
AVESCO	116/0	117/0
AVIS EUR	315/0	315/0
AVON RUBB	584/0	587/0
B.WEINILL	199/0	200/0
BAILL JAP	502/0	506/0
BAILL SHI	84/4	86/0
BAIRD (W)	220/0	220/0
BANK IRE	232/0	231/0
BANKER IT	73/0	74/0
BARON GP	161/0	161/0
BARST DEV	167/0	168/0
BAYNES C	24/0	25/0
BEA GROUP	158/0	159/0
BEAR B.V.T	1/4	2/0
BEATTIE J	150/0	150/0
BEJMAN GP	170/0	170/0
BEHAVEN	49/0	50/0
BELLWAY	217/0	217/0
BENROSE	211/0	211/0
BENKLOX RD	63/0	64/0
BERKELEY	190/0	190/0
BHIM GROUP	448/0	448/0
BHIM MINT	90/0	91/0
BLK LE 2	10/0	10/0
BUNNETT + F	99/0	99/0
BOISE HAS	195/0	195/0
BODDINGTON	161/0	161/0
BODY SHOP	502/0	503/0

World Indices

INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-OR	PREV-YR
FT 300 ORD	1502.0	1481.3	1471.5	1455.3
FT 500 SHR	0	1013.0	1013.0	1008.8
FT ALL SHR	935.77	935.77	929.97	926.59
FT GOV SEC	86.70	86.70	86.65	87.05
FT GOLD IN	163.4	163.4	161.7	161.9
FT MINES F	572.07	572.07	568.38	565.31
FT OIL	1736.9	1736.9	1726.3	1725.4
FT MLD DLR	139.49	140.11	1403.39	1392.21
FT MLD STG	116.18	115.53	115.15	115.30

London Stock Market Report

U.K. SHARES STEADY, OFF HIGHS IN AFTERNOON TRADING
LONDON, JAN 9, REUTER - SHARES WERE STEADY AND BACK FROM THEIR HIGHS IN AFTERNOON BUSINESS AFTER PROFIT-TAKING AND A LACKLUSTRE EARLY SHOWING ON WALL STREET, DEALERS SAID. PRICES WERE MOVED AHEAD INITIALLY AFTER NEWS OVER THE WEEKEND THAT A CONSORTIUM OF INTERNATIONAL FIRMS MIGHT MAKE A BID FOR GEC PLC THROUGH A NEW COMPANY CALLED NETSUN LTD. SUCH A BID, IF IT MATERIALISED, COULD BE WORTH UP TO SEVEN BILLION STG.
GEC SHARES WERE UP 18P TO 220 AFTER TOUCHING 239 ON TURNOVER OF 53 MLN SHARES BY THE AFTERNOON. THE FTSE 100 AT 1546 GWT WAS UP 20.4 POINTS TO 1,531.7 AFTER A LATE MORNING HIGH OF 1,836.
FOR FAST UPDATES OF LONDON STOCK REPORT SEE PAGE - STOCK *
BRITAIN'S OFFICE OF FAIR TRADING (OFT) SAID IT INTENDED TO EXAMINE THE POSSIBLE BID FOR GEC, CAUSING SOME OF TODAY'S PROFIT-TAKING. THE OFT HAS THE POWER TO REFER BIDS TO THE MONOPOLIES COMMISSION, WHICH IN TURN HAS POWERS TO BLOCK BIDS.
THE OFT IS CURRENTLY LOOKING AT THE 1.7 BILLION STG JOINT GEC-SIEMENS BID FOR PLESSEY. LAST FRIDAY PLESSEY SAID IT EXPECTED A RULING FROM THE OFT FAIRLY SOON.
INDUSTRY SOURCES AND PRESS REPORTS SAID PLESSEY, STC, THOMSON-CSF OF FRANCE AND POSSIBLY GENERAL ELECTRIC OF THE U.S. MIGHT FORM THE CONSORTIUM. THE EXACT CONSORTIUM MEMBERSHIP HAS YET TO BE DETERMINED, AN INDUSTRY SOURCE SAID ON SUNDAY.

Precious Metals

LONDON, JAN 9, REUTER - GOLD BULLION HED JUST ABOVE SESSION LOUS IN LATE AFTERNOON TRADING BUT STILL ENDED THE DAY AT THE LOWEST CLOSING LEVEL SINCE OCTOBER 5 LAST YEAR.
GOLD FINISHED AT 402.50/403.00 DLR AN OUNCE, ONE DLR ABOVE THE DAY'S LOW BUT DOWN FROM OPENING AND PREVIOUS CLOSING LEVELS OF 406.60/407.10 AND 405.50/406.00 DLR RESPECTIVELY.
DEALERS SAID THE PRECIOUS METALS SECTOR AS A WHOLE WAS UNDER PRESSURE FROM THE DOLLAR'S ADVANCE TODAY.
THE LOW LEVEL OF ACTIVITY BY JAPANESE DEALERS IN THE MAKE OF SUPERIOR HIRSHFELD'S DEATH WAS EXPECTED AND WAS NOT A CONTRIBUTING FACTOR IN THE DECLINE, THEY SAID.

London Money Market

LONDON, JAN 9, REUTER - MONEY MARKET INTEREST RATES WERE SLIGHTLY EASIER WERE CHANGED IN LATE TRADING BUT DEALERS SAID LITTLE COULD BE READ INTO THE MOVE IN THE QUIET CONDITIONS.
U.K. ECONOMIC DATA RELEASED EARLIER ON CONSUMER CREDIT, PRODUCER PRICES AND RETAIL SALES WAS TAKEN AS BROADLY NEUTRAL AND TRADERS EXPECT LITTLE CHANGE IN THE RATE STRUCTURE BEFORE MORE IMPORTANT INDICATORS BEGIN TO EMERGE NEXT WEEK.
BRITISH PRODUCER PRICES ROSE A SLIGHTLY LESS THAN EXPECTED 0.2 PCT IN DECEMBER AFTER A GAIN OF 0.3 PCT IN NOVEMBER. INPUT PRICES ROSE AN ADJUSTED 0.5 PCT IN DECEMBER -- SLIGHTLY MORE THAN FORECAST.

Foreign Exchange

DLR	STG	DMK	FRF	OPN
1.7638/48	1.625/35	1.8300/05	6.2425/45	NOON
1.8268/8348	3.220/234	3.2200/85	11.0025/0140	NOON
6.243/255	10.9925/1.0105	340.78/1.42	24.99/25.01	1300
1.5605/5615	2.7480/7514	85.18/28	33.09	FIX
2.0580	3.6415	112.885	7.09976	CLSE
1.13796	664/71	2.08113	8.2105	CLSE
1.33583	0.743857	2.40743		CLSE
126.60/70	223.29/61			NOON
SDR RATE	06/01/1989	OTHERS	09/01/1989	

Morgan Stanley Capital International Indices

INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-OR	PREV-YR
AUSTRALIA	287.6	286.7	285.6	290.3
AUSTRIA	240.9	240.9	238.8	238.8
BELGIUM	434.2	430.6	431.0	435.0
CANADA	371.7	369.9	366.5	367.1
DEMARK	539.0	541.6	530.6	518.9
FRANCE	461.5	456.1	447.1	442.7
GERMANY	212.9	214.9	214.4	207.9
HONG KONG	2091.2	2085.3	2067.0	2029.6
FINLAND	116.4	115.9	115.7	118.1
ITALY	469.8	469.8	470.5	462.4
JAPAN	1426.4	1425.0	1428.4	1420.5
NETHERLANDS	273.8	272.4	270.7	267.5
NEW ZEAL	87.8	87.1	87.0	86.6
NORWAY	613.1	609.8	600.5	576.8
SPAIN	608.0	604.6	602.8	604.8
SWEDEN	1076.1	1076.1	1057.6	1074.4
SWITZ	176.7	176.8	175.7	172.9
U.S.A.	552.1	548.5	546.3	546.1
U.S.A.	258.1	258.1	257.5	256.1
WORLD	494.6	496.5	497.1	494.4
E.A.F.E.	955.2	961.9	964.8	959.4

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New York

NAME	OPEN	MID-DAY
A BSCH COM	31/1	31/1
ATLANTIC R	81/5	81/6
AAR CORP	25/0	24/7
ABBOTT LAB	47/1	47/6
ACME CLVD	9/7	9/7
ADV MICRO	9/3	9/1
AEROF LAB	6/0	6/1
AETNA LIFE	47/6	48/4
ALASKA AIR	16/7	16/5
ALCAN ALUM	43/6	43/6
ALCO STAND	20/5	20/5
ALBERTSONS	38/3	38/2
ALBMA 8-16	0	82/0
ALCAN ALUM	33/4	33/4
AM CYANID	48/4	47/6
AM ELET PH	26/7	26/7
AM HON PRO	81/0	81/2
AM STNDRD	0	77/7
AM STORES	59/0	58/4
AM TEL-TEL	28/6	28/6
AMOCO CORP	76/5	76/4
AMP INC	44/5	44/5
AMP CORP	53/4	53/3
AMR GEN CO	30/5	30/4
AMERADA NE	32/5	32/4
ANTHEM ELE	10/1	10/1
APACHE CP	8/3	8/4
APCAL 8-12	0	83/0
ARMSTRONG	34/7	34/4
ASHLAND OIL	34/6	34/6
ASIA PACIF	6/5	6/4
ATLS CORP	26/4	26/4
AVERY INT	22/5	22/6
AVON PRODS	21/3	21/3
BCE INC	31/0	31/0
BELLSOUTH	39/3	39/3
BELO CP	0	23/4
BETH STEEL	23/6	23/6
BEVERLY	6/7	6/7
BK BOSTON	24/0	23/6
BK BOSTN-A	0	40/0
BK N-YORK	36/6	36/7
BK N-Y	36/5	36/5
BKAMERICA	6/5	6/5
BKAM SPEC	6/5	6/5
BOEING CO	60/3	60/6
BOISE CASG	41/0	40/6
BOND IN GLD	7/1	7/0
BORDEN	57/6	57/4
BOWATER	28/7	28/7
BR TELECOM	47/0	46/6
BRIGGS-STY	29/0	29/0
BRIST-HYER	44/2	44/2
BRUNSWICK	17/4	17/2
BURDUP CP	0	25/7
C 3 INC	0	12/7
CABOT CORP	39/1	39/2
CAESARS WD	32/5	32/4
CAL FREIGHT	26/7	25/0
CAS NAT GS	14/6	15/0
CAS-CO	26/7	26/6
CATERPI TR	66/5	66/4
CBI INC	26/6	26/4
CBS	171/1	171/1
CENTEL CP	51/4	51/3
CHAMP INTL	32/7	32/7
CHAMP SPA	14/1	14/1
CHARTER CO	4/0	4/1
CHASE MAN	28/4	28/4
CHENED CP	33/0	33/0
CHEM BK	31/1	31/0
CHEVROLET	47/2	47/2
CHRYSLER	27/1	27/1
CHRYSLER	59/4	59/1
CHUR CR	7/6	7/5
CIGNA CORP	49/5	50/0
CIN MILACR	22/3	22/7
CIR CIT ST	39/7	39/7
CITICORP	11/7	12/0
CLARK EQUI	25/7	25/5
CLARK EQU	31/3	31/4
CLOREX	31/2	31/1
COMBIL RES	12	12
COMBIL SP	30/7	30/6
COM PACIFIC	19/2	19/0
COACHMEN	0	9/0
COASTAL	34/7	34/6
COCA-COLA	44/6	45/0
COLECO	1/1	1/1
COLEMAN CO	40/7	40/7
COL-PALM	44/5	44/5
COLLINS GAS	35/0	34/6
COLUMBUS-C	0	11/4
COM EDISON	32/5	32/5
CONAGRA	30/0	29/6
CONT EDISON	46/4	46/1
CONTINENTAL	32/7	32/6
CONTL ILLN	402	403
CONTEL CP	41/7	41/7
CONTR DATA	20/4	20/4
COOPER T-R	24/4	24/4
COOPER CORP	5/0	5/0
CORNING GL	69/6	69/5
CRAY RES	59/0	59/0
CULINET	6/4	6/4
DANIEL IND	9/2	9/1
DATA GEN	18/6	18/6
DATAPoint	4/4	4/4
DAYTON HOD	39/4	39/2
DEERE	99/6	99/5
DEERE CO	47/5	47/5
DELA AIR	50/0	49/7
DIAMOND SH	15/5	15/6
DIEBOLD	40/3	40/3
DISNEY W	67/4	67/5
DOVER CORP	30/6	30/5
DOM CHENIC	87/7	87/6
DOM JONES	29/5	29/5
DRESSER IN	29/6	29/4
DREYFUS	26/1	25/7
DUKE POWER	46/0	45/6
DUN BRAD	53/6	53/6
DUPONT	89/1	89/0
DUNESNE	18/2	18/2
DYNAMICS	23/5	23/3
E SYSTEMS	30/4	30/2
EAGLE PICH	16/2	16/1
EASTERN G	23/4	23/3
EMERSON EL	30/2	30/3
EMERSON RA	4/6	4/6
ETHYL CP	21/6	21/6
EXXON	44/4	44/4
FAM DOT ST	12/6	12/4
FED NAT WO	52/2	52/0
FIELDCREST	19/6	20/0
FIN COR-AM	0	13

Gold prices dive

Dollar and stocks ease from highs

NEW YORK, Jan 9 (Reuters): Central banks teamed up for an assault on the surging dollar today, sending the US currency and the stock market into retreat from earlier highs.

The dollar's rise to the highest in nearly three months unleashed intervention by the Federal Reserve and the central banks of West Germany, Austria and Switzerland, traders said. The trading partners fear a stronger dollar will widen the gaping US trade deficit and lead to further economic imbalances.

Even after the concerted selling, the dollar was up nearly a penny at 1.8265 marks from its Friday New York close of 1.8175 marks, but it was down from its high of 1.8325 reached early today.

The action on the foreign exchange markets upstaged an impressive stock market rally in Japan on the first trading day

after its emperor died. The Tokyo Stock Market, which some had feared might fall apart on the news of Hirohito's death, instead surged to a record high. The Nikkei index rose 468.85 points, or 1.55 per cent, to close at 30,678.39, its best one-day rise in a year. Similarly, the yen shrugged off the historic event, edging up to 126.50 yen against the dollar in New York from 126.75 on Friday.

"People are looking to the possibilities of a new era rather than dwelling on the death," said one broker in Tokyo.

Stock markets in Europe and Asia followed Japan's example and scored big gains.

Tentative

But on Wall Street trading was tentative, given the dollar's sharp moves and the release of President Reagan's 1990 budget document, which allowed for a \$92.5 billion deficit. At 1600 GMT, the Dow Jones Industrial

Average was down 0.36 points at 2,193.93 from Friday's record close of 2,194.29. Initially it touched a high of 2,198.57. "The budget request shouldn't make much difference to the stock market. It's going to be changed by President-designate George Bush," said Prudential-Bache analyst Larry Wachtel.

Bullish

The Reagan deficit of \$92.5 billion "appears to be lower than expected," said Rutherford, Brown Catherwood managing director Thom Brown. However, he added, "the figure is bound to be controversial. The Democrats may say the reduction is not feasible, while Republicans will say it is do-able."

Despite the dollar's pullback, sentiment remained bullish for the US currency since it has generally been able to withstand the central bank selling.

"It keeps shrugging it off," said Marc Cohen of Republic National Bank of New York. The dollar, he added, is "acting super, super strong."

Higher US interest rates continued to underpin the currency. Credit market interest rates edged higher, adding to the year's gains. The benchmark 30-year bond rate was 9.05 per cent, up from 9.04 per cent at Friday's close, as its price slipped 3/32 to 99-1/32.

The dollar's strength drove the price of gold bullion down to an afternoon setting in the London bullion market today at \$402.45 an ounce, its lowest for 2-1/2 months.

Comex gold futures were marked down early on selling spurred by the dollar's continued gains. In moderate trading, gold for delivery in February lost \$3.30 at \$404.80 an ounce.

The dollar rose last week amid tension between Libya and the

United States and a statement by Bundesbank vice-president Helmut Schlesinger that he saw no sign of the dollar weakening. A steady US economy also has supported its rise. But strong central bank intervention adds confusion.

Mixed

On other equities markets, the London Stock Exchange's FTSE index of 100 key shares was up 20.9 points to 1,832.2 in late trading after release of a mixed set of British economic data.

In Sydney, the All Ordinaries share index closed up 9.8 points at 1,488.2, while in Hong Kong, shares ended at their highest level since the crash of 87. The Hang Seng index rose 25.62 points to close at 2,792.27.

The price of Brent blend crude oil from Britain's North Sea was around or just above the US close on Friday at about \$16.20 a barrel for February delivery.

Major securities firms limit their trading

Hirohito's death will have little impact on economy

TOKYO, Jan 9, (AP): Despite cancellation of some parties and official events, economists and businesses say the death of Emperor Hirohito will have little impact on Japan's robust economy.

Some businesses closed for two days of mourning after Hirohito died early Saturday, and department stores turned off their blazing neon signs and draped window displays with white sheets.

Concerns

Today, however, most stores returned to business as usual.

The Tokyo Stock Exchange cancelled its regular Saturday half-day's trading, then saw active trading and healthy gains today.

Traders said an optimistic outlook for Emperor Akihito's new era helped boost the market's key indicator, the Nikkei Stock Average of 225 selected

issues, by 468.85 points to a record high 30,678.39.

Economists say that despite earlier concerns that Hirohito's death would depress stock prices and retail sales, trends in the last few months point to continued strong economic growth.

"The opening of a new era is having a (positive) psychological impact on the economy," said Christopher New, strategist for James Capel Pacific Ltd. "Markets have been discounting for the Emperor's death, since mid-October, when it became clear he wasn't going to recover," he said.

Disruption

"Any negative impact due to restrictions on holding events during Hirohito's final illness has already been felt," said Kouichi Yano, a senior economist at the Mitsubishi Research Institute, a private think tank.

"From now on, the impact (of Hirohito's death) will be positive," Yano said.

One executive, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the cancellation of just one order for a gala autumn festival cost his firm 10 million yen (\$74,600).

Richard Jerram, an economist at the Kleinwort Benson Brokerage in Tokyo, estimated that the economic loss could amount to a fall of one-quarter of a percentage point in the growth of Japan's Gross National Product — the total value of the nation's goods and services. This would be due to disruption of wholesale and retail sales and the entertainment industry, he said.

Japan's GNP grew 4.2 per cent to about \$2.4 trillion in the fiscal year that ended March 31, 1988.

Hirohito's death did not provoke anything like last September's cancellations, despite an official six-day period of mourning and a year-long mourning period for the Imperial family.

"There has been absolutely no

impact on reservations for our facilities for weddings and other events," said a managerial employee at the Imperial Hotel, who refused to give her name.

"It was fortuitous that his death fell on a Saturday so that there was a minimum of economic disruption," Jerram said. "Now it's business as usual."

Jerram said it was hard to estimate the impact of an anticipated extra two days of national holiday — one for Hirohito's funeral on Feb 24, and a new holiday to mark Emperor Akihito's birthday on Dec 23.

Drop

"There will be a drop in production, but consumption may climb. It's difficult to pin down," he said.

Today's big gains on the Stock Exchange contrasted sharply with the plunge of 352.42 points in the Nikkei Average to 27,548.58 on Sept 20, the day after Hirohito became seriously

ill. Since then, the index has climbed past 20,000 points despite rumours about Hirohito's illness that occasionally shook the market.

Analysts, speaking on condition of anonymity, said individual investors flooded the market with buy orders, while major securities firms limited their trading out of consideration for the national period of mourning.

Prices of printing, paper and pulp and ink shares did not shoot up as had been expected due to an absence of major speculators from the market. Economists predict unusually high demand for printing products as Japan shifts from the old Showa calendar of Hirohito's reign to the Heisei calendar of the new emperor.

"It probably was seen as rather bad taste to be driving those issues up," said Jerram.

Malta tries to enhance economic ties with India

NEW DELHI, Jan 9, (KUNA): Prime Minister of Malta Edward Fenech Adami arrived here on official visit to hold talks with Indian leaders including Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi to enhance economic and commercial ties between the two countries.

Dr Fenech Adami, who is accompanied by his wife and Foreign Minister Vincent Tabone, were received by Rajiv Gandhi and high civil and Army officials.

A ceremonial welcome had to be cancelled in view of the state mourning for Japanese Emperor Hirohito.

Soon after his arrival, the visiting prime minister had meetings with President R. Venkataraman and Vice-President Dr S. D. Sharma and exchanged views with them on bilateral matters and international issues.

Dr Fenech Adami arrived in Bombay on Saturday where he visited the electronic and engineering processing zone. He also visited historic Udaipur City yesterday.

Strides

Fenech Adami praised India for impressive strides it has made on the industrial front since independence. Fenech Adami urged Indian industrialists to avail facilities of his country's new free port, which is the outcome of the country's new industrial policy to establish advanced export oriented industries.

New oil find

JAKARTA, Jan 9, (OPECNA): Pertamina, the Indonesian state oil company, has announced an oil find in the Prabumulih region of South Sumatra following the drilling of a wildcat well code-named 'Air Serdang I'.

According to Pertamina spokesman Kusnadi Amin Endin, the well, located about 42 km northwest of the South Sumatran capital city of Palembang, produced an average of 1,909 BPD of crude and 750,000 cu. ft of gas during test runs.

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Gulf told to adopt new oil strategy

A WELL-KNOWN Kuwaiti economist stressed the importance of adopting oil strategies and other plans within the GCC countries so as to protect their overseas investments.

Jassem Al Saadoun, who participated in the ninth meeting of the GCC states development conference, held in Abu Dhabi last Thursday and Friday, said that the GCC states should review the process of the oil revolution, study developments and search for necessary replacements.

Prices

After the meeting, Saadoun explained that the GCC countries should discuss issues of greater importance and that permitting share exchanges among the GCC states.



Saadoun

Saadoun said that the next six months will witness strong interaction tests between OPEC members but there will be some adherence concerning oil prices. He added that it was impossible to predict what will happen after these six months but sticking

to fixed oil prices will give room for gradual increase in prices possibly reaching the OPEC objective of \$18 per barrel or more.

However, Saadoun declared that a downfall to oil prices will take place if OPEC members fail to honour the recent price pact. The price may drop under \$10 which is the limit and thereby force OPEC to repeat the scenario of a new agreement.

Saadoun said that the GCC states are still unable to adopt the present levels of their general capabilities and that the GCC oil reserves are starting to wear off due to withdrawals.

Twenty-eight economists from the GCC states participated in the ninth GCC meeting.

Oil well starts trial production

BAGHDAD, Jan 9, (Reuters): Trial production started today at a wildcat oil well drilled four years ago in central Iraq, the official Iraqi News Agency INA reported.

It quoted Oil Minister Issam Abdul Rahim Chalabi as saying the well in the Tikrit region, 130 km (80 miles) north of Baghdad, would be developed after technicians assessed the quantity of its oil and the production rate. Chalabi said Iraq hoped to find fresh resources of oil and gas in areas other than its main oil fields around Basra in the south and Kirkuk in the north.

The Oil Ministry now estimates Iraq proven oil reserves at 100 billion barrels, the world's second largest after Saudi Arabia.

Officials pin hopes on US move

Vietnam takes radical economic steps to get IMF aid

HANOI: Hanoi has warmed up its courtship of the United States.

Vietnamese officials have set their hopes on Washington's eventual nod to loans needed for Vietnam's collapsed economy. To accommodate US interests, Vietnam has released a record number of emigrants, Amerasians and remains of missing US soldiers during the second half of 1988, nearly 14 years after the end of the war between the two nations.

In addition, Vietnam has taken radical economic steps in 1988 to obtain help from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), over which the US has substantial influence.

"The state must get foreign loans. This real situation is the underlying source of ... confusion in our economy and life," said Communist Party chief Nguyen Van Linh in an October speech.

The most drastic economic step has been a seven-fold devaluation of the Vietnamese currency since early November to near parity with the rate on the illegal dollar market. Officials describe the move to a near-floating currency as an ideological breakthrough. This is the first time the Communist Party has admitted it must follow free-market forces.

Maintain

"For a long, the leaders held ultra-conservative theories of trying to maintain two economies," says Le Dang Doanh, a top government economic adviser. "But now they admit to pure economic reality."

"Creating a capitalist sector is the highest priority of Vietnam," adds Doanh. "It's the only way to create jobs."

An IMF team was invited to

Vietnam in December, the first time the organisation has been asked to give advice and criticism to party and state officials.

Vietnam has a hard-currency foreign debt of \$2.44 billion, with an additional debt of an estimated \$5.5 billion in "soft" currencies, mainly owed to the Soviet Union. To obtain new loans, Vietnam must meet IMF economic criteria and pay back at least \$30 million of a long-standing \$70 million debt owed to the IMF, according to Western diplomats in Hanoi.

By devaluing the currency, welcoming foreign investment, and reducing government subsidies, along with other steps taken since 1987, Hanoi is following prescriptions laid down by the IMF.

Officials hope the IMF, with US approval, will eventually provide a \$150 million loan. This amount, Doanh says, will quickly boost production of consumer goods by 30 per cent, the second most important economic goal after improving agricultural production.

Steps

"The IMF wants immediate steps nationwide, but the government wants it step by step, region by region," says Doanh. "And the IMF wants us to eliminate all subsidies — but so far only a few provinces have been able to do this."

At a National Assembly meeting recently, party leaders government reported "no marked progress" in the economy this year. Since 1985, the average income has been cut in half to \$130 per person, or about one-third less than that of China. Per capita grain consumption is about half of China's. Inflation, one of the highest in the world, is running 700 to 1,000 per cent.

"Our biggest mistake has been not even seeing the mistakes of our political theories," says Ha Xuan Truong, editor of a party theoretical journal.

"We're discarding this (Leninist) idea of jumping over the capitalist phase (to communism)," he adds. "We thought a happy society would be one with no exploitation and with production in the hands of the state. So we set up the bureaucracy for

that — but no results."

He cites one example in Thanh Hoa Province, where 15 state-run restaurants earn as much profit as four private restaurants.

"Now we know that eliminating the bourgeois and having state production is not socialism," says Truong. "If we want goods, we need both rich and poor."

The Christian Science Monitor

World's most advanced aircraft to take part in Dubai air show

SOME of the world's most advanced civil and military aircraft are to take part in daily flying displays at the Dubai '89 Aerospace Exhibition, the only show of its kind ever to be mounted in the Middle East, which takes place later this month.

Included in the exciting line-up of 16 aircraft scheduled to fly is the revolutionary computer-controlled Airbus A320 airliner; an American General Dynamics F-16 jet fighter; a British Aerospace Hawk 200 fighter — the jet flown by the RAF's Red Arrows display team — and two French Dassault Mirage 2000 jet fighters. There will also be a number of aircraft on static display, including Boeing's latest 737-400 airliner.

Exhibitors

Dubai '89 is being staged in a huge DH9 million purpose-built complex at Dubai International Airport from Jan 29 to Feb 2, with more than 150 exhibitors from international civil and defence aerospace companies.

Held under the auspices of the UAE Minister of Defence, Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, and organised by

Fairs and Exhibitions Ltd. of London with the support of the government of Dubai's Department of Civil Aviation, the exhibition is aimed at placing Dubai alongside the world's major air shows, such as Farnborough and Singapore.

Virginia Kern, managing director of Fairs and Exhibition, said: "The appearance of so many advanced and exciting aircraft is an indication of the prestige attached to Dubai '89 by the world's aerospace companies. The flying displays by these aircraft will add a spectacular dimension to the exhibition, enhancing its appeal and world-wide stature as a showcase for the leading names in the aerospace industry."

Running simultaneously with Dubai '89 will be the three-day conference "Aerospace into the 21st Century," with 25 leading international speakers. Organised by Emirates, the international airline of the UAE, the conference is being held at Dubai International Trade Centre from Jan 31 to Feb 2, and is attracting delegates from throughout the Middle East and the Indian sub-continent.



Traders use hand signals to buy and sell stocks on the floor of the Tokyo Stock Exchange yesterday. Tokyo stock prices hit a new high on expectations that the period of mourning for Japan's Emperor Hirohito will end soon. (Reuters wirephoto)

OPEC and non-OPEC members to discuss ways to stabilise market

CAIRO, Jan 9, (AP): Members and non-members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries will meet at the expert level on Jan 26 in London to discuss ways to stabilise the world oil market, OPEC's secretary-general said today.

Indonesia's Dr Subroto also said that OPEC had no confirmation of published reports that the United Arab Emirates was exceeding its production quota, agreed upon at an OPEC meeting last November.

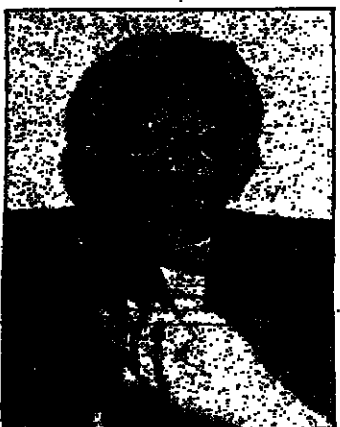
Subroto spoke to reporters after meeting with Oil Minister Abdel Hady Kandil.

The Indonesian minister, who arrived in Cairo last night, is touring non-OPEC oil-producing countries, and already has visited Colombia and Mexico. He is to depart on Wednesday for Oman.

Confident

"I am also here to discuss the situation in the oil market and what OPEC and non-OPEC (nations) can do together," Subroto said of his talks with Kandil. "We are confident, both of us, that co-operation of OPEC and non-OPEC producers will have a positive effect on the market and it is our intention to do something concrete on this respect."

Subroto and Kandil said that non-OPEC oil-producing countries will hold a meeting of their own in London on Jan 25 at Oman's request. Then, experts from OPEC and non-OPEC countries would meet on Jan 26



Subroto

to prepare the ground for a similar meeting at ministerial level later.

"We discussed co-operation and what we shall do together to bring stability to the oil market," Subroto said. "Certainly one aspect of that co-operation is how to influence supply, and OPEC has done its part already by the November agreement to reduce production and I think it is now time that non-OPEC producers will also contribute."

Kandil however, ruled out any further reduction of Egypt's production. He said that since October 1984, Egypt had reduced its daily output to between 870,000 and 900,000 barrels in support of OPEC policies.

Egypt is not a member of OPEC but its oil policy is generally guided by the organisation's actions.

Subroto said the OPEC's 8-minister monitoring committee closely followed each member's output, looking for possible violations of quotas. Asked about published reports that the United Arab Emirates was exceeding its quota, Subroto said:

"We have no indication so far of that ... so far we have no indication."

Prices

Subroto said that world oil prices were "developing very much positively" thanks to observance of last November's OPEC quotas and co-operation between OPEC and non-OPEC producers.

Kandil said: "We are very happy to have Subroto here in Egypt and this kind of co-operation between OPEC and non-OPEC members is needed especially now and at all times. This move is very important."

"We are not discussing reducing production, rather keeping existing quotas," said Kandil when asked if Subroto was asking non-OPEC countries to cut their production.

Asked whether Egypt would agree to reduce its production, Kandil said: "I don't think so. The reduction that we put into effect on our production just about allows Egypt to use its resources at optimum level," Kandil said.

Subroto is scheduled to meet tomorrow with Prime Minister Atef Sedki.

Political row on prospect of Britain's biggest takeover battle

LONDON, Jan 9, (Reuters): Political opposition mounted yesterday to possible plans for an international consortium to bid for Britain's flagship manufacturing firm, General Electric Company (GEC).

Financial analysts said any offer for GEC would have to top £6 billion (\$10.6 billion) which could lead to the country's largest takeover battle.

GEC employs 157,000 people and its products range from domestic appliances to advanced defence radar and avionics for British missiles and tanks.

Sparked

A surprise weekend announcement by a London investment house said a new company had been set up to formulate a proposal which could lead to an offer for GEC. The move sparked immediate calls for government intervention.

Lazard Brothers and Co. said the company, Metson Limited, was holding talks with a number of international industrial companies.

It did not name the companies but newspapers said they included two British groups, Plessey Co PLC and STC, the French electronics firm Thomson CSF and the US based General Electric Co. which is not

linked with GEC.

The companies declined comment pending a further announcement by Lazard.

Asset
Former conservative Defence Minister Michael Heseltine said GEC was a national asset and the government should block any attempts for it to pass from British control.

Heseltine resigned from the government in 1986 in a row over foreign control of the Westland helicopter company.

A foreign takeover could change the face of two of Britain's most important industries and affect thousands of jobs.

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, Jan 9, (Reuters): Institutional trading dominated a share market buoyed by economic optimism overseas. The All Ordinaries index closed up 9.8 at 1,488.2.

TOKYO: Prices soared to close at a record high in heavy trading, surprising investors who expected a downturn and self-restraint on the first business day since Emperor Hirohito's death on

"It would be quite unthinkable for so over-simple a disregard of national interest to exist in any other significant capitalist economy. The Americans, the Japanese, the French or the Germans would blow the whistle before this bizarre event got out of control," Heseltine said.

Opposition Labour Party spokesman Bryan Gould said the matter should be referred to the government's watchdog Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Several unions called for government intervention.

Last year GEC announced pre-tax profits of £708 million (\$1.2 billion) on a turnover of £5.5 billion (\$9.7 billion).

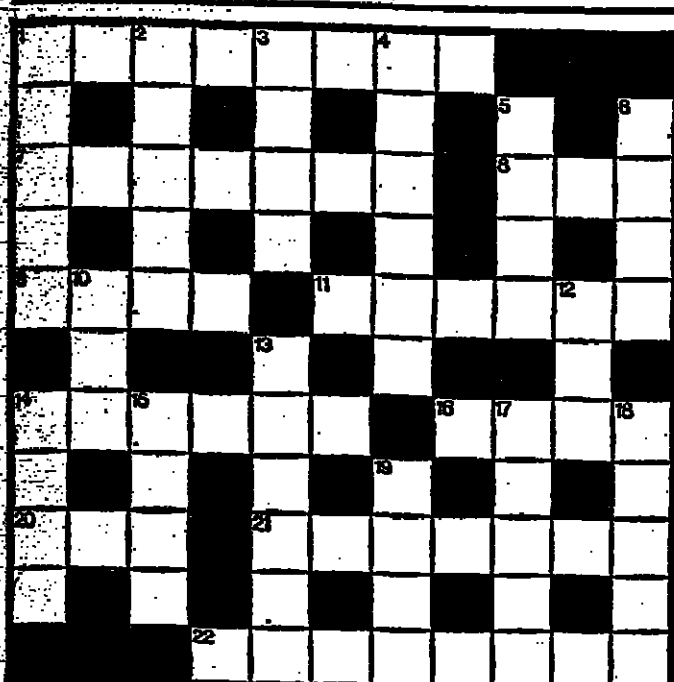
SINGAPORE: Prices rose sharply across the board in active trading. The Straits Times industrial index rose 29.65 to 1,072.99, its highest level since August 25.

BOMBAY: Prices rebounded sharply to close with big gains after the exchange authorities halved purchase margins and raised sales margins by a half.

SATURDAY: The Nikkei index rose 468.85 to 30,678.39.

HONG KONG: Mild profit-taking in the afternoon depressed prices slightly but the Hang Seng index rose 25.62 to close at 2,792.27, a post-crash high.

CROSSWORD



Across

- 1 Malaria-carrying insect (8)
- 7 Stones on the beach (7)
- 8 Impersonal pronoun (3)
- 9 Small room for imprisonment (4)
- 11 Works of fiction (6)
- 14 Preliminary drawing for a painting (6)
- 16 Playing cards of high value (4)
- 20 Matter more fluid than liquid (3)
- 21 To shorten a book (7)
- 22 Abstaining from alcohol (8)

Down

- 1 Harmonious arrangement of sound (5)
- 2 Strip of wood for lighting (5)
- 3 Exert strong persuasion (4)
- 4 Shudder of an earthquake (6)
- 5 Tract of land of one type (4)
- 6 The latest information (4)
- 10 Largest species of deer (3)
- 12 The sheltered side (3)
- 13 To remove the top surface (6)
- 14 Put one's name to a document (4)
- 15 Except that mentioned (4)
- 17 Soldier training to be an officer (5)
- 18 Means of enchantment (5)
- 19 Appear to be worried (4)

Solution on Thursday

Continued from Thursday

"Which way to the witch's house?" asked What's-his-name. "Straight on," said Willie. "At the top of the hill you will see crossed branches. That is her garden gate. And good luck!"

The pixie waved a thank you and hurried on his way. He soon came to the crossed branches, which was a good thing or he might have forgotten again where he was going. He climbed over the branches and a voice boomed out.

"Ha, little man — and where might you be going?" It was the witch, complete with tall hat and broomstick.

"I d-d-don't k-k-know," stuttered the pixie. He had forgotten again. Then, oh dear, he dropped the muffins in fright. As soon as the witch saw the muffins she was delighted.

"Oh, you've brought the muffins," she said. "You are a good little man. Come in and we will drink hazelnut wine."

The forgetful pixie



What's-his-name decided he had better do as he was told. He followed the witch into her house. There was hardly room to move

inside. So many pots and pans, pumpkins, apples and bunches of herbs all round the walls. The pixie was surprised to find the witch

so kind and friendly. He was no longer afraid. The witch poured the cups of wine. "I shall grant you a wish," she said, "for

being so kind and bringing my muffins. You can make a wish and it shall be granted. My wishing pot is on the wall."

"I wish," said What's-his-name, "that I had a good memory. I cannot even remember my name."

"Oh, that is very easy," said the witch. "Stand on my stool and say three times — I remember. I remember. I remember." When this was done the witch said, "Now we must find you a name, and you will never forget it again."

The two of them tried to find a suitable name but nothing sounded quite right somehow. Then the witch had an idea.

"It is Tuesday," she said. "I shall call you Pixie Tuesday."

What's-his-name thought that sounded grand. He thanked the witch and ran off to tell all his friends... after promising to call and see the witch every Tuesday in future. A promise you can be sure he would NOT forget.

Ha! Ha!

Why did the man wear a life-jacket in bed? Because it was water bed.

MOTHER: Did you thank Mrs Brown for the lovely party?
BOBBY: No, the girl in front of me did and Mrs Brown said "Don't mention it," so I didn't.

What is the dirtiest word in the world?
Pollution.

Why shouldn't you tell a joke while ice-skating? Because the ice might crack up.

How does a ghost like his drink in hot weather? Ice ghoul.

What fish do pelicans eat? Anything that fits the bill.

What do ghosts eat for dinner? Spook-etti.

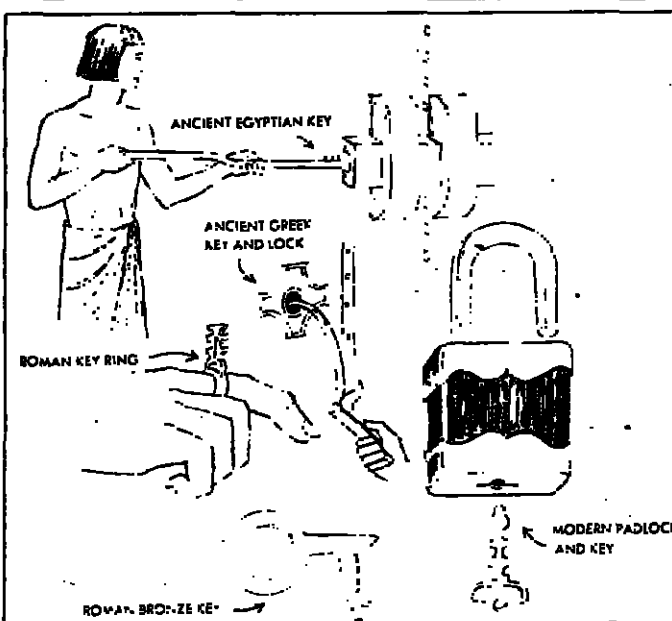
What do short-sighted ghosts wear? Spook-tacles.

How keys were made

THE ancient Egyptians were the first to use a kind of key to open a door. They had a lock that was made up of a wooden bolt that fitted into a slot. Movable wooden pins known as tumbler were fastened in the top of the slot. When the bolt slid into place, the wooden tumblers dropped into holes cut in the bolt. The bolt was held fast until the tumblers were lifted up with the key.

This first key did not look at all like a key as we know it today. It looked more like a giant-sized toothbrush with pegs instead of bristles on one end. When the key was put in the slot, the pegs went under the tumblers. By raising the key, the tumblers were forced out of the bolt, which was then easily drawn back.

The Egyptian key could only be used on that side of the door where the bolt was placed. The Greeks discovered a way to slide back the bolt from the other side of the door. They slid their



key through a hole in the door above the bolt until its tip touched a notch in the bolt on the inside. The Greek key was a curved bar, in shape and size much like a farmer's sickle. Some of these keys were over three feet long and were carried over the shoulder.

The Romans later became the most skillful locksmiths of the ancient world. They

made a great improvement in the key. The pegs on the end of the Roman keys were cut in many different shapes. Now a thief had to make a key with pins not only in the right position and of the right length but also of the right shape.

The Romans worked out a small lock that could be carried from place to place. We call such locks padlocks.

Junior magician's corner

Simple tricks to play on your friends



Sugar hat trick

Place a collection of hats on a table. Ask for the sugar bowl. Next, take out one lump of sugar. Tell your audience you will swallow it and that, by your magic powers, it will be under one of the hats. Invite your audience to decide which hat.

Now, swallow the sugar. (Your audience will be watching the sugar bowl carefully.) When they tell you which hat, simply place it on your head and, of course, you've done just what you promised!

Matchstick trick

Before you perform this trick, dip one end of a drinking straw into water and then into sugar. Push the other end of the straw into a bar of soap. Wipe off any soap and sugar from the outside of the straw, so that nobody knows what you have done. Now, put two used matchsticks into a glass of water. If you put the soap end of the straw into the water, the matches will move apart. If you put the sugary end in, the matches will come together.

Surprise your friends.

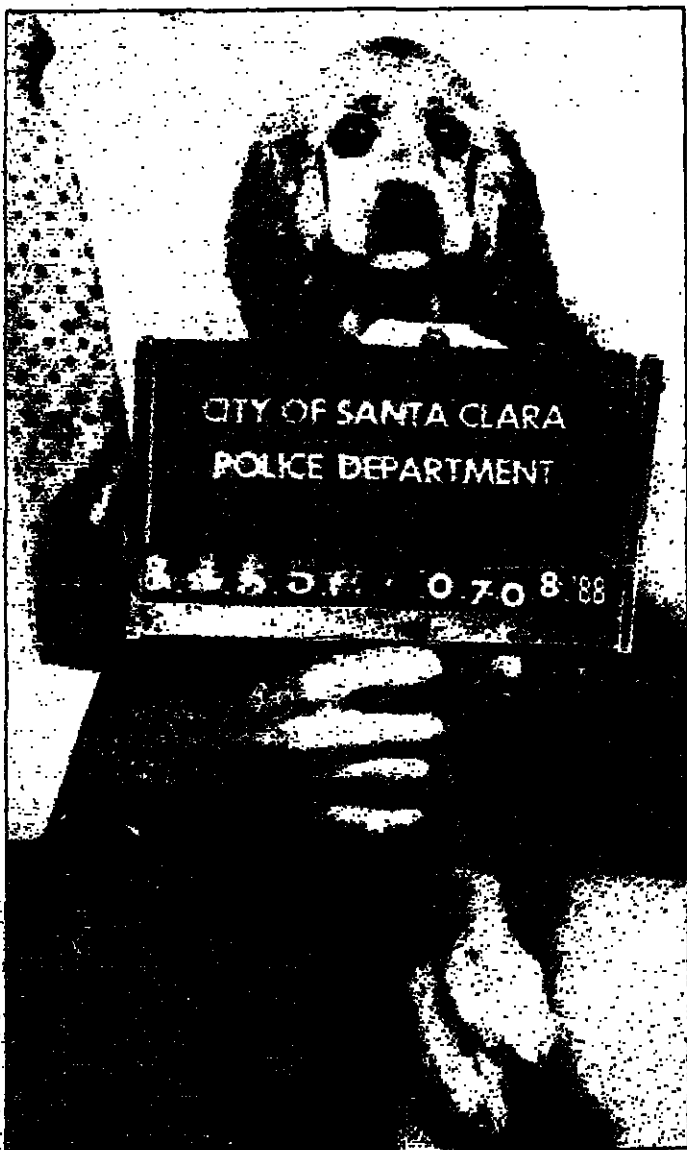


Happy birthday

Safia Abubaker celebrated her second birthday on Jan 7 in Morba, India. Best wishes from her cousins Samir, Nafil and Hassan.



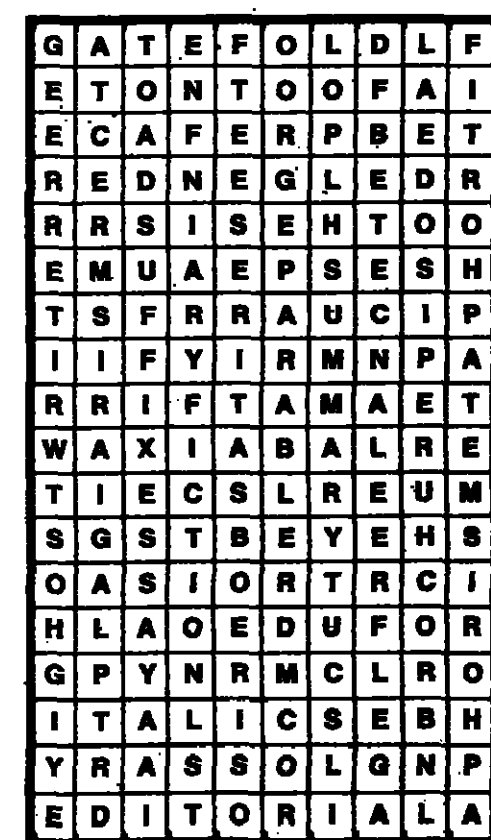
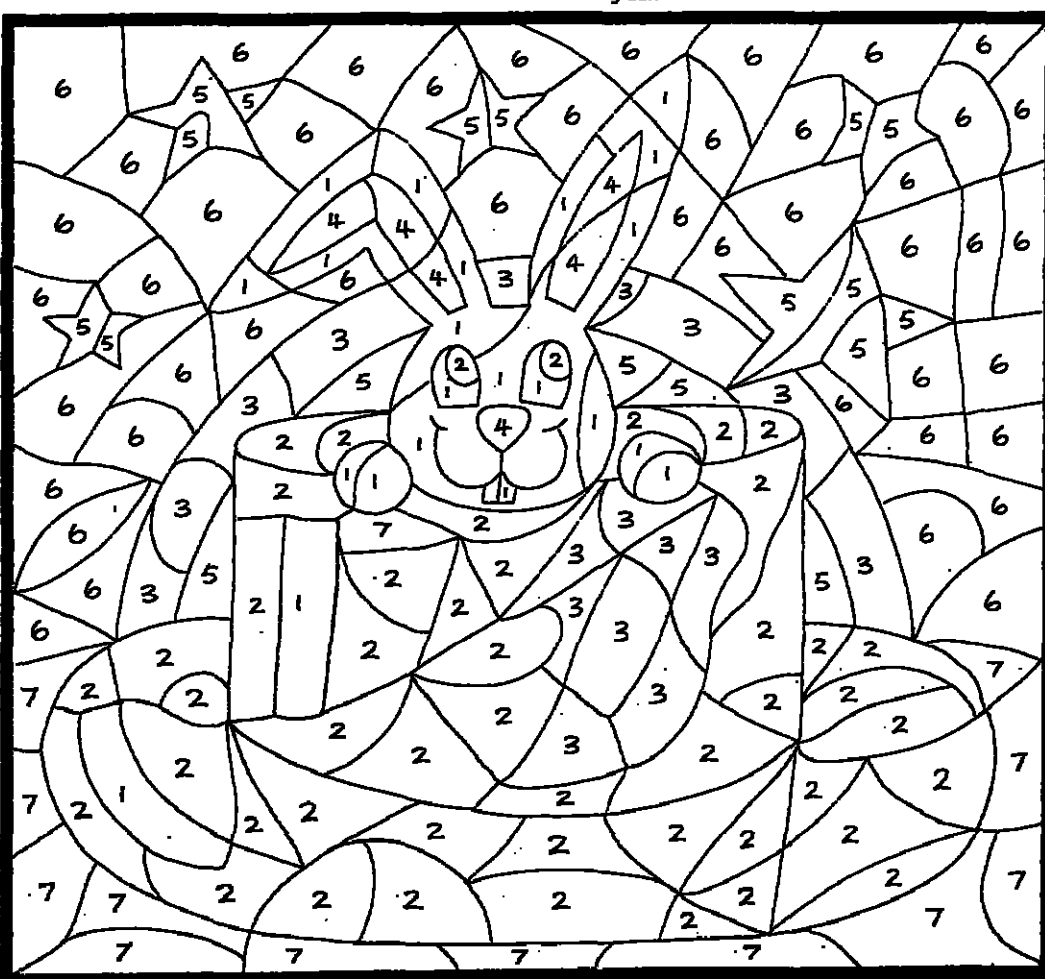
Case of the stolen pup



Are these the eyes of a criminal? Someone used a stolen credit card to take this pup from a pet shop in California, USA and the dog was booked as evidence by the police. Happily the cocker spaniel now has a new home.

colour BY NUMBERS

1. white 2. black 3. red
4. pink 5. yellow 6. blue
7. green



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| EPISODE | PARABLE |
| ESSAY | PLAGIARISM |
| FABLE | PREFACE |
| FICTION | SATIRE |
| FOOTNOTE | SUFFIX |
| FREE LANCE | SUMMARY |
| GATEFOLD | THESIS |

Clue: A narrative for example (8,4 letters)

Factfile FROM THE GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS

IN 1974 ONLY 14 EXAMPLES OF THE SHAR-PEI OR CHINESE FIGHTING DOG WERE KNOWN TO SURVIVE. 14 IN HONG KONG, THE REST IN THE USA. BY 1977 HOWEVER, THEIR NUMBERS HAD INCREASED TO 60 AS A RESULT OF PLANNED BREEDING AND TODAY THE WORLD POPULATION IS OVER 4000.

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Drawn by DICK MILLINGTON



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Er... Sprechen Sie Englisch?

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THE TALLEST LIVING MAN IS GABRIEL ESTAYAD MONJANE (18144) OF MONJACAZ, MOZAMBIQUE, EAST AFRICA, WHO STOOD 7ft 3in (225 cm) AT THE AGE OF 16 AND TODAY MEASURES 8ft 3 3/4 in (245.7 cm).

Drawn by DICK MILLINGTON

THE WORLD'S TALLEST IDENTICAL TWINS ARE MICHAEL AND JAMES LANIER (18 27 NOV 1969) FROM TROY, INDIAN, USA WHO STAND AT 7ft 4 in (223.3 cm).

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THE BRITISH ARMY'S TALLEST SOLDIER WAS BENJAMIN CROW WHO WAS SIGNED ON AT LICHFIELD IN NOVEMBER 1947 WHEN HE WAS 7ft 1in (215.2 cm) TALL.

While you're here you're the lowest of the low!

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ARAB TIMES Classifieds

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EXECUTIVE secretary, well-experienced in correspondence, shorthand, typing, telex, fax and conversant with LCs, banking, air/sea cargo clearing procedures and personnel matters, seeks position. Tele. 5656927. (AT3-45543-3)

EXECUTIVE secretary, American, 4 years experience in Kuwait with knowledge of typing, word processing, telex, telefax and all administrative duties, seeking senior position. Tele. 5750747-9 ext 209. (AT4-45525-1)

COMPUTER programmer, Indian, with 2 years experience in IBM micro computers and knowledge of Dbase III+, Cobol, Lotus 1-2-3, Wordstar and all the utilities. Tele. 3920451, 4.30-9 pm. (AT2-45523-3)

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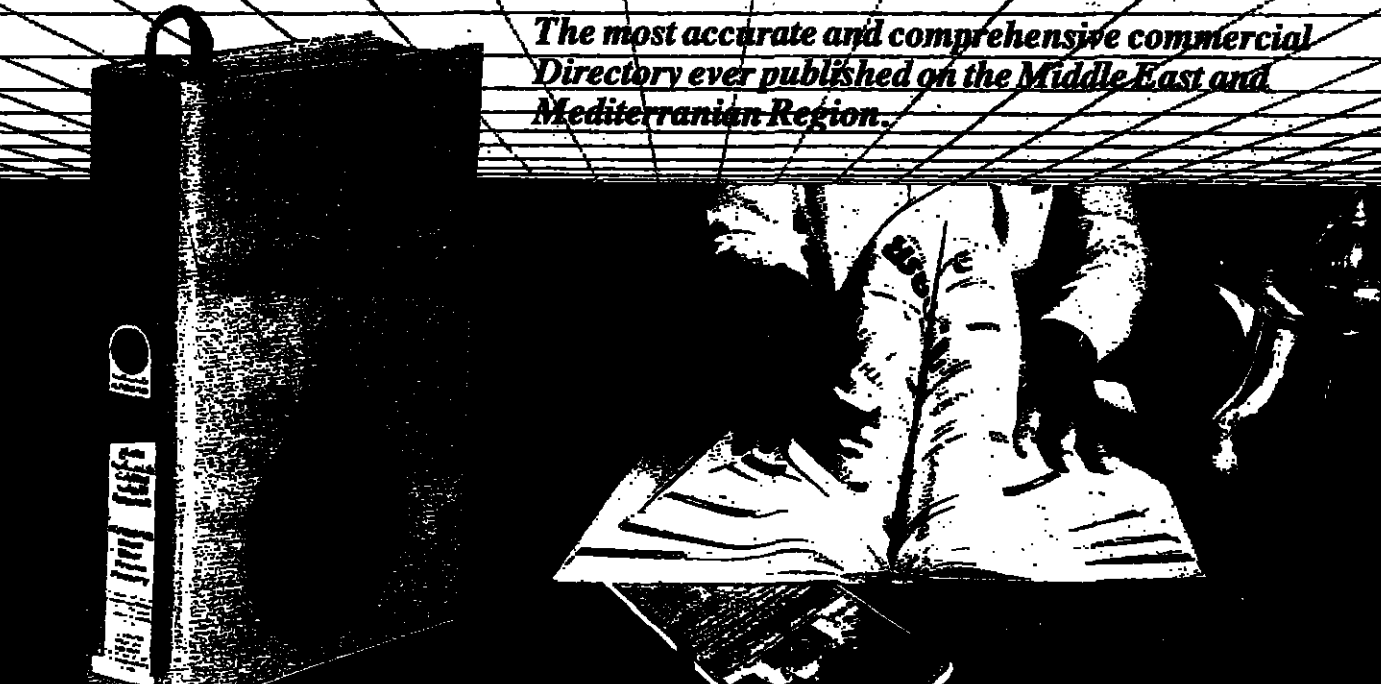
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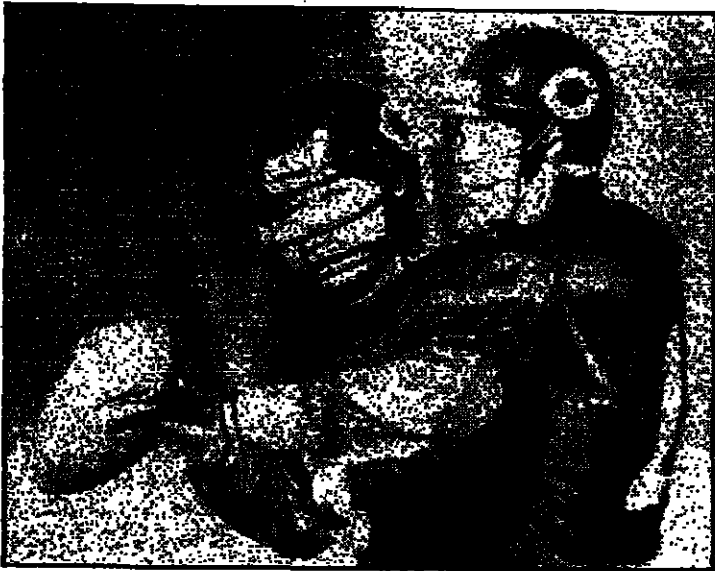
BEARS AND BILLS GO OUT IN CONFERENCE FINALS

49ers to face Bengals for title

CHICAGO, Jan 9, (Reuters): The San Francisco 49ers looked right at home in the frigid conditions at Soldier Field as they routed the Chicago Bears 28-3 yesterday to set up a Super Bowl rematch against the Cincinnati Bengals.

San Francisco, moving the ball freely on offense behind quarterback Joe Montana and wide receiver Jerry Rice, overcame wind-chill temperatures that reached -36 degrees Centigrade to win the National Football Conference (NFC) title.

The triumph by the 49ers, who led 14-3 at the half, followed a 21-10 win by Cincinnati over the Buffalo Bills in the American Football Conference (AFC) final.



Bears' quarterbacks McMahon (left) and Tomczak before the start of the game.

Grabbed

The results created a repeat of the Super Bowl match-up that followed the 1981 season. San Francisco, with current Cincinnati coach Sam Wyche serving as an assistant under 49ers chief Bill Walsh, won Super Bowl XVI 26-21.

Montana, who was Most Valuable Player in the 49ers' Super Bowl win over Cincinnati, threw for three touchdowns. Rice grabbed two of them — good for 61 and 27 yards.

Walsh paid tribute to Montana, who this year had to fight to keep his starting job over Steve Young.

"This could have been Joe Montana's greatest game ever," Walsh said. "Considering the conditions and the pressure, in my opinion it was his greatest game."

Montana passed off much of the credit to Rice.

"He's one of the best you're ever going to see," Montana said about his favourite receiver.

"Hopefully we can keep it up for two more weeks."

Montana also praised his pass

protection. "Those five guys in front of me played real great."

The Niners, who also won Super Bowl XIX when they beat Miami 38-16 to cap off the 1984 season, will be only the second team to play in three Super Bowls this decade. The Washington Redskins, last year's champion, were the others.

"Going to the Super Bowl keeps getting sweeter all the time," Montana said. "A month ago I didn't even know I was the starter."

Montana, who passed for 288 yards in completing 17 of 27 attempts, put San Francisco ahead 7-0 with 3:18 left in the first quarter when he connected with Rice who eluded two tacklers along the sideline for a 61-yard touchdown.

Midway through the second quarter the Montana-Rice combo came through again, this time on a 27-yarder to make it 14-0.

Just three minutes before the half, the Bears, who started Jim McMahon at quarterback, broke the ice with a 25-yard field goal by Kevin Butler.

That would be all the scoring for the Bears, who seemed far more affected by the cold. McMahon, who started ahead of Mike Tomczak, completed 14 of 29 for 121 yards but saw many accurate passes dropped by his dozen-fingered receivers.

In the third quarter, Montana continued to show a fine touch by tossing his third touchdown pass, a five-yard flip to tight end John Frank. Fullback Tom Rothman finished the scoring with a five-yard touchdown burst in the last quarter.

In the second game, Bengals used the powerful running of Ikey Woods and a swarming defence to win a trip to the Super Bowl.

Woods, a first-year fullback, got to perform his "Ikey shuffle" touchdown dance twice as he bulldozed his way to a pair of scores and quarterback Boomer Esiason tossed a 10-yard touchdown pass to James Brooks for the Bengals' offence.

The Bengals, who led 14-10 at halftime, scored the only points of the second half after a personal foul penalty against Buffalo defensive back Derrick Burroughs, who was ejected from the game for throwing an elbow, gave Cincinnati the ball on the Bills' four-yard line.

Two plays later, with just four seconds gone in the fourth quarter, Woods plunged in from the one yard line to give the Bengals an 11-point cushion.

Woods' crucial touchdown came on a drive kept alive by a fake punt on fourth down and three on the 33 yard line. With Bengals punter Lee Johnson positioned deep, the ball was snapped to Stanley Wilson who gained six for the first down.

Happily

Esiason, who completed 11 of 20 passes for just 94 yards and was intercepted twice, happily ran a ball-control offence.

"The passing game has been down the last couple of weeks, but why pass when you can run with the big fellow here?" Esiason said referring to Woods.

Jones hits birdies for three-shot victory



Jones watches the ball fly towards the cup. (Reuters wirephoto)

CARLSBAD, California, Jan 9, (AP): Steve Jones birdied two of his first four holes and cruised to a three-stroke victory yesterday in the Tournament of Champions, the inaugural event on the 1989 PGA Tour schedule.

Jones, who never trailed over the final 18 holes, won the second title of his career with a final-round 69, three under par on the La Costa Country Club course, and a 279 total.

The victory was worth \$135,000 from the total purse of \$750,000. It marked the third consecutive year that a first-time qualifier had won this exclusive event that brings together only the winner of tour titles from the previous 12 months.

Jones, 30, who qualified for this event with a 1988 triumph in the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am, faltered only once.

He bogeyed both the 15th and 16th holes and saw his lead dwindle to a single stroke. But he nailed it down with a 25-foot putt for a birdie on the 17th hole.

Chipped

"That pretty well turned out the lights," said Jay Haas, who tied for second with South African David Frost at 282.

Haas chipped in for birdie on the last two holes, from 80 feet on the 17th and about 35 on the 18th, for a 68. Frost also had a 4-under-par effort in the sunny, chilly weather.

Australian Greg Norman, with another 68, was fourth at 283. Chip Beck followed at 71-284.

PGA champion Jeff Sluman, Morris Hataalsky and Larry Wadkins tied at 285. Hataalsky closed up with a 67. Sluman shot

stroke lead going to the 18th. But he drove poorly off the final tee and bogeyed the hole. Barber, playing behind him, won it with the chip-in.

Barber matched par 72 over the final 18 holes at the La Costa Country Club course and achieved his 25th Seniors Tour victory with a 280 total, eight under par.

The Seniors victory, worth \$50,000 from the total purse of \$250,000, was his second in his event that brings together only the winners of Seniors' Tour titles from the last 12 months.

Australian Bruce Crampton, who went to a closing 76, was third at 287, the only other man under par.

Chesnokov falls in 1st round of NSW Open

SYDNEY, Jan 9, (Reuters): Second seed Andrei Chesnokov continued a miserable start to 1989 when he failed to survive the first round of the New South Wales Open championships, going out 4-6 6-4 6-4 to West Germany's Christian Saceanu today.

Sweden's Jonas Svensson, seeded fourth, joined Chesnokov as a shock loser when he lost without a whimper, 6-2 6-4, to qualifier Olivier Delaire of France on the opening day of the major warm-up tournament for next week's Australian Open.

Chesnokov, also seeded fourth, in the first round of last week's tournament in Adelaide, seemed to have the match under control when he took the first set on the steaming hot centre court.

But Saceanu threw caution to the wind and began to attack Chesnokov's service at every opportunity midway through the second set, triggering a crisis of confidence in last year's finalist here.

Three successive breaks saw Saceanu emerge with the second set. By the end of the third set Chesnokov was serving weakly and the ex-Romanian clinched victory on his second match point.

"He is a very good baseline player so I had to go for it and after the second set I tried to risk a bit more," said Saceanu, now under the wing of Gunther Bosch, former coach of Boris Becker.

The disconsolate Chesnokov, now heads home, missing the Australian Open to prepare for his country's Davis Cup world group first-round tie against Czechoslovakia in early February.

In the second round Saceanu will meet another Soviet player, Andrei Cherkasov, a straight sets winner over Mexico's Leonardo Lavalle.

Knicks and Lakers rout opponents

NEW YORK, Jan 9, (AP): "Home sweet home" is an adage the New York Knicks and the Los Angeles Lakers can really get into.

In the only National Basketball Association games yesterday, the Knicks walloped the Los Angeles Clippers 134-100 for their 11th straight victory at Madison Square Garden in New York. And the Lakers pounded the San Antonio Spurs 126-96 at the Forum in Los Angeles, where they are 13-0 and the only team still unbeaten at home this season.

Knicks, who also have struggled on the road this season — with a 2-11 record and seven straight losses — got 16 points, 17 assists and eight rebounds from Magic Johnson against the Spurs to keep their home record perfect.

The Lakers will carry a seven-game road losing streak — their longest since an eight-game slide in 1975 — to Sacramento tomorrow.

"Somewhere, this has to stop," Los Angeles coach Pat Riley said. "We've had some bad breaks on the road, but we don't want to have all that hanging over our heads when we go to Sacramento."

Byron Scott and Michael Cooper, starting in place of the injured James Worthy, added 17 points each as eight Lakers scored in double figures.

Willie Anderson led the Spurs with 19 points and Alvin Robertson had 16.

Los Angeles took command early against the Spurs with a 19-8 run as the Lakers pulled away from a 21-15 lead midway through the opening quarter.

San Antonio rallied to move to within 60-54 at halftime, but the

Lakers spurted away again, building an 83-65 lead 7-12 minutes into the third period.

The Lakers, who now have beaten the Spurs 16 straight at the forum, dating back to Jan 6, 1984, led 89-74 heading into the final quarter.

Standings

Eastern Conference

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	21	11	.656	—
Philadelphia	16	15	.516	4 1/2
Boston	14	16	.467	6
New Jersey	13	19	.406	8
Washington	9	21	.300	11
Charlotte	8	22	.260	11

Central Division

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cleveland	24	5	.828	—
Detroit	19	9	.680	3 1/2
Atlanta	21	11	.656	4 1/2
Milwaukee	18	11	.621	6
Chicago	16	14	.533	8 1/2
Indiana	8	23	.258	17

Western Conference

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Denver	19	12	.613	—
Houston	19	12	.613	—
Pacific Division	17	12	.586	1
Utah	18	14	.563	1 1/2
San Antonio	10	21	.323	9
Miami	8	23	.259	16

Pacific Division

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
L.A. Lakers	22	11	.667	—
Phoenix	20	11	.645	3
Seattle	17	12	.586	3
Portland	18	13	.581	3
Golden State	12	16	.429	7 1/2
L.A. Clippers	10	22	.313	11 1/2
Sacramento	7	21	.250	12 1/2

Canada bans Brown and McKoy

OTTAWA, Jan 9, (Reuters): Runners Mark McKoy and Courtney Brown, who abandoned Canadian relay teams at the Seoul Olympics in the wake of the Ben Johnson steroids scandal, were suspended yesterday from competition.

McKoy, a hurdler who was supposed to run in the 4x100 metres relay, will not be able to compete for national teams for two years, said Paul Dupre, president of the Canadian Track and Field Association.

Brown, who was a member of the 4x400 metres team, was banned from running for his country for a year.

Era of glasnost brings changes in Soviet sports

MOSCOW, Jan 9, (AP): The era of glasnost is encouraging changes in the state-controlled Soviet sports system, ranging from new candour about professionalism to the embracing of sports long rejected by communists.

Following Mikhail Gorbachev's policy of openness, Soviet sports officials have given permission to some of the nation's finest athletes, including soccer and ice hockey stars, to play for professional teams abroad.

They have issued a challenge for the America's Cup, yachting's most coveted prize and perhaps the most elitist of all sports events, and branched out to other Western-style sports such as auto racing.

Donation

Even golf, branded a sport of the bourgeois, is catching on in Moscow. The nation's first golf course, designed by former Swedish hockey star Sven Tumba, is to open late this summer in the capital.

A baseball stadium is being built in the Lenin Hills overlooking Moscow, financed by a \$3.2 million donation from the Japanese to Moscow State University. It will be the first ball park in the Soviet Union.

On Sept 2, the universities of Southern California and Illinois will bring "Amerikanski futbol" for the first time to the Soviet Union when they meet in a 1989 college season opener fittingly named the Glasnost Bowl in Moscow.

Soviet officials are changing their attitude on professionalism in sports, permitting clubs to be run commercially and giving some stars permission to go West. Soviet athletes also are talking publicly about problems they face.

Hockey star Igor Larionov recently wrote a scathing story in Ogonyok magazine describing national team coach Viktor Tikhonov as a brutal dictator whose sole aim, in league with the state sports committee, is to win at the expense of the players' private lives.

Larionov, who hopes to play in the National Hockey League after finishing his Army duties, accused Tikhonov of forcing players to conduct "family life by telephone."

It was the first time in the 42-year history of Soviet hockey that a player openly criticised a high official of the national team.

Larionov said he was once "forced to repent" for giving an unsanctioned interview to a Western newspaper and for entertaining a Canadian in his parents' Moscow apartment.

Larionov also claimed that an unnamed Soviet hockey leader told the players to use "stimulants" before the 1982 World Championships in Finland. But Larionov said he and his teammates refused to take drugs. The Soviet won the championship.

Last month, the Soviets signed a pledge with the United States and East Germany to crack down on drug use by their athletes in Olympic sports.

Meanwhile, some top Soviet athletes are complaining that they don't get paid enough.

Sergei Bubka, the Olympic and world pole vault champion, says it's about time that the athletes get a bigger slice of prize money and endorsement contracts from competitions in the West.

"I think there will be a change for the better in the near future," Bubka was quoted as saying recently by the newspaper Sovetskii Sport. "But Soviet athletes will never compete and earn money for themselves only."

The Soviet State Sports Committee reaps the biggest share of money earned by Soviet athletes who compete abroad.

Ickx retains Paris-Dakar lead

TIMBUKTU, Mali, Jan 9, (Agencies): Ari Vatanen of Finland, driving a Peugeot, and Stephane Peterhansel of France, astride a Yamaha, won yesterday's leg of the Paris-Dakar Rally, a 611-kilometre (382-mile) course through the desert of Mali.

Vatanen's Peugeot teammate and rally competitor, Jacky Ickx of Belgium, finished second in the stage, 2 minutes and 57 seconds behind.

Schneider set to break Moser-Proell's record

ZURICH, Jan 9, (Reuters): Swiss double Olympic champion Vreni Schneider, winner of an unprecedented eight successive technical events in the women's World Cup season so far, regards skiing as a hobby and fights shy of her new superstar image.

The 24-year-old daughter of a shoemaker from Elm, a hamlet in the mountains of Glarus east of Zurich, preserved her unbeaten slalom and giant slalom record yesterday when she completed a rare treble by winning a slalom in Mellau, Austria.

Schneider had already overhauled the prestigious mark for a winning sequence in technical events set by former team-mate Erika Hess, winner of six slaloms in a row in 1981, with her second giant slalom win in two days on Saturday.

Apart from four special and four giant slaloms, she has also won a combination this season for a total of nine wins, leaving only Austrian Annemarie Moser-Proell's record of 11 in 1973 to aim at.

The modest Schneider, who was almost forced to give up skiing when her mother's death from cancer in 1980 left her in charge of a young family, is amazed at the stir her winning run has caused.

"I train hard and I enjoy skiing and racing," she said. "Competition is still fun for me, it's a hobby, not a job."

With a total of 22 victories, Schneider lies sixth in the ranks of the all-time greats of women's World Cup history.

Hess, who retired in 1987 to get married, won 31 World Cup events in her 10-year career and Moser-Proell, the Austrian superstar who retired in 1980 at the age of 27 after he Olympic downhill triumph, won 62 events in 12 years on the circuit.

Schneider has raced regularly in the World Cup since December 1984 and celebrated her first win in only her fourth race.

In 1987 she grabbed her first gold medal in the World Championship giant slalom at Crans-Montana and in 1988 she became skiing's fifth double Olympic champion when she clinched the slalom and giant slalom titles in Calgary.

A serious crash in the Aspen downhill last March in which she tore knee ligaments prevented her from winning her first overall title last season. But this year she already has almost twice as many World Cup points as her nearest rival, Austrian Ulrike Maier.

The World Championships opening in Vail, Colorado, at the end of this month could yield yet another record.

"Vreneli," as the Swiss call her, will be bidding for four titles, slalom, giant slalom, super-giant slalom and combined. No women's skier has won more than three at the same championships.

Schneider, whose favourite pastimes are listening to Swiss country music and long mountain hikes, is almost embarrassed by the image of her as a sports star in some Swiss newspapers.

She feels she gets too much credit for her successes but trainer Jan Tischhauser is constantly impressed by her dedication.

Yugoslav team coach resigns

BELGRADE, Jan 9, (Reuters): Yugoslav water polo coach Ratko Rudic, who has led the national team to two Olympic titles and a world championship in the past five years, has resigned.

"I'm tired of my highly-stressed life as national team coach," Rudic told Reuters today. "I want to rest a bit and maybe in the future I shall come back," he said.

Rudic, 40, led Yugoslavia to Olympic gold in Los Angeles in 1984 and Seoul in 1988 and the world title in Madrid in 1986. He was capped 290 times as a player in the 1970s and became national coach in 1984.

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Results

Thierry Tassin (France) beat Diego Narbonne (Italy) 6-4 7-6 (8-6); Aaron Krickstein (US) beat Peter Aldrich (South Africa) 6-3 6-7 (5-7) 6-2; Christo van Rensburg (South Africa) beat Andrei Olkhovski (Soviet Union) 6-3 7-6 (12-10); Andrei Cherkasov (Soviet Union) beat Leonardo Lavalle (Mexico) 6-4 6-1; Christian Saceanu (West Germany) beat Andrei Chesnokov (Soviet Union) 4-6 6-4 6-4; Andrei Temesvari (Hungary) beat Monica Javer (Britain) 7-6 (7-5) 7-6 (7-5); Bettina Cordwell (New Zealand) beat Iwona Kuczyńska (Poland) 7-6 (7-5) 6-2; Liz Minter (Australia) beat Katrina Adams (US) 7-6 (7-5) 6-4; Gretchen Magers (US) beat Rene Simpson (Canada) 6-2 6-0; Nathalie Herrmann (France) beat Silke Meier (West Germany) 7-5 4-6 6-1; Amy Frazier (US) beat Julie Halard (France) 7-6 (7-5) 6-4; Laura Golarsa (Italy) beat Elise Burgin (US) 6-1 6-4; Caterina Lindqvist (Sweden) beat Catherine Traver (France) 6-4 6-1; Louise Field (Australia) beat Eva Pfaff (West Germany) 7-6 (9-7) 6-2; Romi Reis (US) beat Kathleen Horvath (US) 6-2 3-6 6-1; Beth Herr (US) beat Claudia Parodi (West Germany) 6-4 7-6 (7-5); Terry Palfy (US) beat Anne de Vries 6-3 6-4; Nicole Provia (Australia) beat Hester Witvoet (Netherlands) 6-3 7-6 (7-5); Etsuko Inoue (Japan) beat Federica Bonaguidi (Italy) 6-4 6-3; Olivier Deslaurie (Belgium) beat Jonas Svensson (Sweden) 6-2 6-4; Candille Boncompagni (US) beat Nicole Jagerman (Netherlands) 6-3 4-6 6-4; Ann Henriksen (US) beat Lou Antonopoulos (US) 6-1 6-4; Petra Angerova (Czechoslovakia) beat Wilfried Probst (West Germany) 4-6 7-5 6-1; Lisa Smylie (Australia) beat Alexia Ducharme (France) 3-6 6-1 6-2; Jo-Anne Faulstich (Australia) beat Beverly Bowser (US) 6-1 6-1; Dianne Balistreri (Australia) beat Ann Smith (US) 6-3 6-1.



Schneider: fights shy of new superstar image

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SPORTS BRIEFS

Norberg injured

SKELLEFTEA, Sweden, Jan 9, (UPI): International ice hockey player Hans Norberg seriously injured his back and risks paralysis in arms and legs following an accident at a Swedish elite series game last night. Norberg, 29, was tackled in the first period and cracked a vertebra.

Top player

BRUSSELS, Jan 9, (UPI): Belgian international midfielder Leo Clijsters received the Golden Shoe award today as the best football player in Belgium during the 1988 season. Clijsters, a key player for European Cup winners KV Mechelen, polled 295 points from the jury. He succeeded teammate and national goalie Michel Preud'homme.

Danish players

NEWCASTLE, England, Jan 9, (UPI): Danish international defender Bjorn Kristensen and 24-year-old striker Frank Pingel flew into Tyneside today with a view to signing contracts for struggling English First Division club Newcastle United.

Steffi Graf

MELBOURNE, Australia, Jan 9, (AP): West German teenager Steffi Graf completely dominated women's tennis in 1988, but she said today the year hadn't been as hard as she expected.

GCC meeting

RIYADH, Jan 9, (KUNA): The fifth GCC Sports meeting committee concluded here yesterday, following two days of discussions. A press statement from the GCC General Secretariat said that the committee made several recommendations, including the holding of the second meet for the handicapped during the first week of October in Bahrain.

Match postponed

MADRID, Jan 9, (UPI): The return World Cup Group Six qualifying match between Spain and Malta has been put back a day to March 23 at Seville, Spanish football federation president Angel Villar said today.

Scottish FA Cup draw

LONDON, Jan 9, (Reuters): Draw for the third round of the Scottish Football Association (FA) Cup made yesterday.

St Johnstone v Cowdenbeath or Stenhousemuir, Dunfermline v Aberdeen, Celtic v Elgin City or Dumbarton, Falkirk v Motherwell, Hibernian v Inverness Caledonian or Brechin City, Queen of South v Kilmarnock, Forres Mechanics or Alloa v Coldstream or Albion Rovers, Meadowbank v Hamilton, Queen's Park v Stranraer, Clydebank v Montrose, Hearts v Ayr, Forfar v Clyde, Raith v Rangers, Morton v Airdrieonians, Patrick v St Mirren, Dundee v Dundee United.

Ties to be played on Saturday, January 28.

BRIDGE

RESULTS of the Regency Bridge Club game played on Sunday:
1. Nabil Akel & Peter Harris
2. Bianca Moussali & Ahmed Tawil
3. Adel Bayoumi & Mounshah Sabri
The Regency Bridge Club will hold its annual tournament on Friday, Jan 20, at 3.00 pm at the Regency Palace premises.
Results of the Mesliah Ladies Bridge Club game played yesterday:
1. Rita Canaciani & Bianca Moussali
2. Nabil Akel & Lollo Marthwaite
3. Ghofran Mikhail & Fatima Abuljohar

PORTO AND BENFICA CRASH

Sanchez keeps Real on top

MADRID, Jan 9, (Reuters): Mexican international Hugo Sanchez struck twice in the last two minutes to give Spanish soccer league leaders Real Madrid a 4-2 home victory over plucky Elche yesterday.

Sanchez, until then unable to escape defender Javi Rey's man-to-man marking, scored both goals by running on to passes from midfielder Sebastian Losada, who went on late in the game.

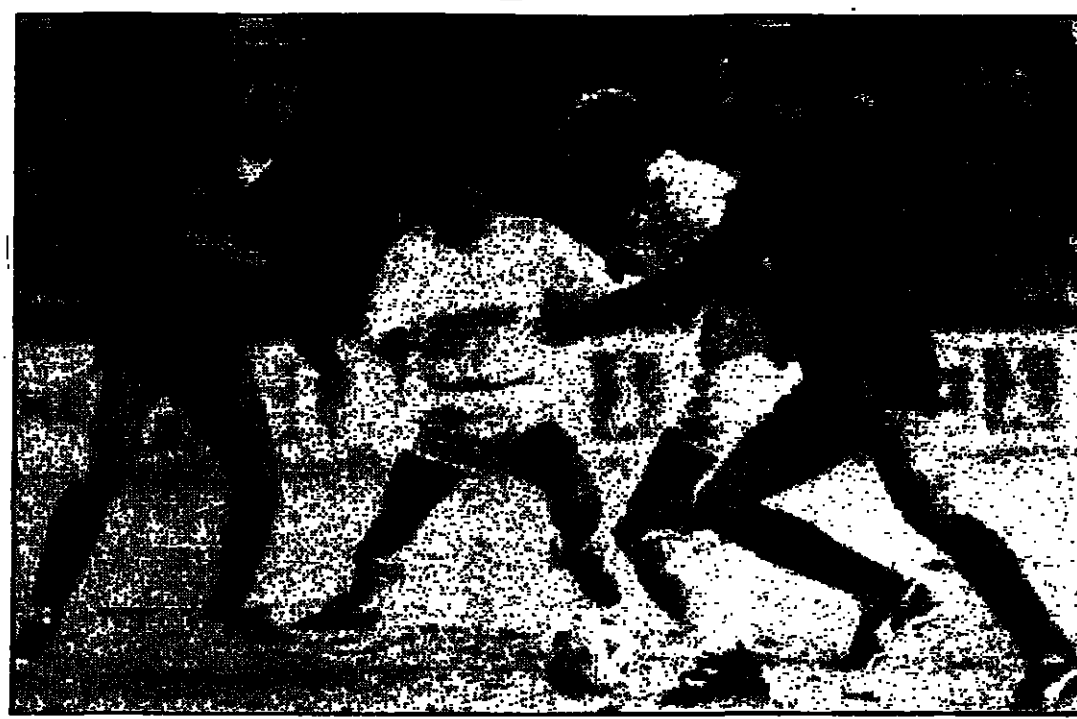
Bottom-of-the-table Elche stunned an overconfident Real, who had been treating the match with about as much urgency as a training session, when their striker Claudio Barragan shot them ahead after half an hour.

Close
Emilio Butragueno put Real level 15 minutes after the interval, flicking the ball from close range past Elche goalkeeper Jose Puenzo, but the visitors were not finished yet.

Benito Sanchez made it 2-1 for Elche with a header only minutes later but could not stop Real midfielder Martin Vazquez equalising.

Real coach Leo Benhakker, sensing that victory was in sight, pulled off veteran back Jose Camacho and midfielder Michel and put in two wingers in their place, Losada and Paco Lorente.

But Elche still looked like they might steal a point from the champions before Sanchez pounced.



Sanchez (2nd left) and Butragueno (2nd right) try to get past Elche. (Reuters wirephoto)

Real stay two points clear of Barcelona, who defeated Cadiz 3-0 after a hesitant start.

Midfielder Eusebio Sacristan scored six minutes after the interval with a swerving shot from 30 metres. Julio Salinas hit the second and Jose Bakero completed the rout with another powerful curling shot 10 minutes from time.

Inter maintained their three-point lead in Italy after Serena

scored 18 minutes from time to secure their 1-0 win over struggling Bologna. The winning goal came from Aldo Serena.

But in Portugal, leaders Benfica and second-placed Porto, the reigning champions, both crashed.

Benfica, with Swedish striker Mats Magnusson sidelined through injury, slumped to their second successive defeat as they fell 1-0 to Penafiel.

Porto squandered a chance to close the gap at the top as they were thrashed 4-1 by their Oporto neighbours Boavista, the side who last week ended Benfica's 18-match unbeaten run.

The champions fell behind to an own goal by Bandeirinha after 37 minutes and never recovered. Two goals in 10 minutes by Nelson and another by Eloi left Porto 4-0 down with 20 minutes remaining before Domingos hit a

late consolation goal.

Napoli and Juventus enjoyed splendid away successes yesterday to continue the chase of unbeaten Inter.

Brazilian striker Careca scored the decisive goal as Napoli won 1-0 against a Torino side who defended doggedly after Silvano Benedetti was sent off in the first half.

It was Careca's 10th goal of the season and one which left second-placed Napoli with 19 points from 12 games.

Veteran striker Alessandro Altobelli put Juventus on the road to an excellent 3-1 victory at Roma before he twisted an ankle and was substituted.

Portuguese Rui Barros added a second after a series of near misses by both sides before Giuseppe Giannini and Antonio Cabrini converted penalties for Roma and third-placed Juventus respectively in the dying minutes.

Slumped

Italian champions AC Milan failed to shrug off their disappointing form as they slumped to a 1-0 defeat at Cesena. They now lie seventh in the table 10 points adrift of Inter.

Swedish winger Hans Holmqvist scored Cesena's winner in the 66th minute from a cross by Massimo Agostini.

Rund Gullit, Milan's gifted Dutch international who has spent much of this season out with injury, missed several chances in the second half to earn his side at least a point.



Sutton players jubilate after beating Coventry in the third round.

Sutton drawn against Norwich in FA Cup

LONDON, Jan 9, (Reuters): Minor-League Sutton United were handed a second FA Cup giant-killing chance today when they were drawn against high-flying First Division side Norwich City in the fourth round.

Sutton, whose 2-1 home win over 1987 Football Association Cup winners Coventry proved the sensation of Saturday's third round, travel to Norwich's Carrow Road home for the January 28 tie.

Holders Wimbledon visit Aston Villa and favourites Liverpool go to Millwall in two all-First Division confrontations.

Sutton manager Barrie Williams was delighted with the draw, which pitched his side of part-timers against the club that led the First Division for more than three months until New Year's Eve.

"The fantasy continues," he said. "We always said the FA Cup was unreal but this is going beyond the realms of possibility. We regard it as an experience that we look forward to once again. It is just part and parcel of everyday life now. There is a little touch of unreality about it but that is what the Cup is always about."

Kettering, the only other Minor-League survivors in the fourth round draw, will visit First Division strugglers Charlton if they come through their third round replay at Fourth Division Halifax tomorrow.

John Docherty, manager of third-placed Millwall, said his side's clash with fourth-placed Liverpool promised to be the tie of the round. "In any round of the FA Cup you are delighted to be drawn at home," he said. "We have already drawn 1-1 against Liverpool in the League at Anfield."

Robson out of hospital

LONDON, Jan 9, (Reuters): England and Manchester United soccer captain Bryan Robson was discharged from hospital today after being knocked unconscious in the Football Association (FA) Cup match against Queen's Park Rangers on Saturday.

Robson was concussed and swallowed his tongue after a collision with a defender in the 89th minute of the goalless third round tie. He was taken to hospital for X-rays on head and

shoulder injuries. The tests showed no broken bones. United manager Alex Ferguson said: "There is no problem with his shoulder but he has some chest bruising. It's just a matter of resting him now. We shall take advice to make certain he is okay after the concussion and shock of swallowing his tongue." Robson is out of Wednesday's replay but may be fit for Saturday's League match against Millwall.

Wimbledon seeks to beat ticket touts

LONDON, Jan 9, (Reuters): Wimbledon is setting up a "white market" for tickets to its annual tennis championships in a bid to beat the touts it despises at their own game.

"The ticket touts really are the one undesirable aspect of Wimbledon," championships chairman Buzzer Haddingham said today when announcing the organisers' alternative to the black market which springs up each summer.

Under a trial system this year, organisers of the Grand Slam tournament will try to match the inflated prices offered by touts for some spare centre court tickets.

But the system will make no difference to the average tennis fan who must still take a chance in the public ballot for centre court seats or queue for hours each day for a ticket for the other courts.

Debutante holders — guaranteed one centre court ticket for each of the 13 days in return for a long-term investment — will be offered £420 (\$740) by the Wimbledon committee for a surplus £36 (\$64) men's final ticket.

Wimbledon will resell its white market tickets — with a 10 per cent handling charge — only to the companies who hire out the 44 official hospitality marquees. They now receive nine per cent of the centre court tickets but have complained that these are not enough.

A sliding scale of prices will start at £60 (\$106) for tickets for the first two days of the tournament in June.

"To allow debutante holders to recover a part of their investment but at the same time to bypass unofficial and perhaps unscrupulous agents, we announce the introduction of an

official 'white market' service," said Peter Jackson, chairman of Wimbledon's tickets committee.

"The very success of Wimbledon means that we do have the most tremendous problems and troubles to do with tickets," said Haddingham. "We are trying to cut out the black market."

Wimbledon chief executive Chris Goringe was quick to stress that only 14 per cent of tickets go to debutante holders who paid £5,500 (\$9,700) in 1986 for a five-year investment. Only current holders can buy new issues.

"Of Wimbledon's total gate of about 400,000, over 40 per cent — some 164,000 tickets — are reserved for sale on the day," said Goringe.

Some 160,000 fans apply for centre court tickets through the public ballot, with a one in six chance of success. Others are willing to pay the

grossly inflated prices charged by touts or agencies. One agency last year was asking £1,500 (\$2,650) for a pair of men's final tickets.

Wimbledon began investigating ways to squeeze out the touts after a senior umpire — one of many officials banned from reselling their privileged allocation of tickets — was trapped by a Sunday newspaper advertising high prices for tickets.

Higher

But Haddingham admits that organisers might not be able to compete if debutante holders feel they can get higher prices elsewhere.

"There is no legal ban on them selling their tickets. They might well look at our prices and say 'I can get more than that on the black market' and there is absolutely no way we can stop them."

Navratilova ready to challenge Graf

SYDNEY, Australia, Jan 9 (AP): Martina Navratilova today proclaimed herself as fit as at any time in her career and ready to mount a determined challenge to world number one Steffi Graf during the 1989 tennis season.

Navratilova, 32, is preparing for the Ford Australian Open by playing in the \$350,000 New South Wales Open at White City this week.

"Winning a major tournament and being consistent are my two main aims for the year," she told a press conference.

"I want to win a big one again, not having done so last year. I won a lot of others but not the ones that counted."

"Two years ago I didn't win anything but the majors. Hopefully this year I can get a combination."

US confident of victory

Paraguay prepare for Cup match

ASUNCION, Jan 9, (Reuters): Paraguay began training today for their Davis Cup world group tennis clash with the United States next month in which they will be looking for a second upset triumph over the Americans in two years.

Veteran doubles player Francisco Gonzalez arrived in Asuncion from the United States to join the rest of the team, which includes Victor Pecci and Hugo Chapcu, who are most likely to contest the singles matches.

Team sources said Pecci and Gonzalez would probably join forces for the doubles in the first round in the United States from February 3-5.

Paraguay beat the Americans 3-2 in an ill-tempered world

group clash in Asuncion in March, 1987, which led to the United States being relegated to the American Zone.

The Paraguayan crowd upset the Americans, beating drums and chanting at vital stages of the match and the Americans also claimed the Paraguayan line judges were biased.

Happy
But the United States are confident of an easy victory next month on home territory, according to Gonzalez.

"The Americans are happy because they're going to play at home and they're sure they're going to win," Gonzalez said.

"For this reason (John) McEnroe will not play. He doesn't want to play against us.

He just hopes to play against France, but it won't be easy for the United States. They will have to fight to beat us," Gonzalez added.

The winners of the tie will face either France or Israel in the quarterfinals.

US captain Tom Gorman picked McEnroe and teenage star Andre Agassi for the singles in the tough American Zone final against Argentina in Buenos Aires last July which the United States won to return to the world group.

Jimmy Arias and Aaron Krickstein had played singles for the United States in Asuncion the year before, while Ken Flach and Robert Seguso teamed up for the doubles in both ties.

Imran raps Australian umpires over wides

SYDNEY, Jan 9, (Reuters): Australian cricket umpires were blasted today by players and commentators, particularly over the number of wides called in the current one-day World Series Cup (WSC) matches.

"(The umpires are) not inconsistent, just consistently poor," Pakistan captain Imran Khan told journalists.

Conceding
The controversy centres on the number of wides called by umpires in the weekend one-day matches. On Saturday West Indies were penalised 37 times while conceding a record 59 extras in their match against Pakistan.

Pakistan were themselves called for 13 wides in that match and 12 the following day against Australia who were penalised seven times.

"The rulings were fair enough against Australia but it was ridiculous at times on Sunday," Imran said.

On Saturday bowlers were repeatedly called by umpires for

deliveries which were well within batsmen's reach and sometimes passed over the middle of the bat, causing disbelief among the players.

Tony Cozier, well-known West Indian cricket commentator, said in an article in the Australian newspaper: "The game was in danger of being reduced to a farce by the rigid interpretation of the conditions governing wide balls for the one-day internationals."

"The need for the emphasis to avoid defensive tactics is obvious. But it was carried to its illogical conclusion by rulings that frequently defied cricketing commonsense."

The Australian Daily Telegraph commented: "At times it seemed almost as if any ball not pitched on the stumps was liable to be called a wide."

"Most of those down the leg side might have been wides under the rules of one-day cricket but some outside the off stump were close enough to have been hit."

However Australian captain Allan Border refused to join in

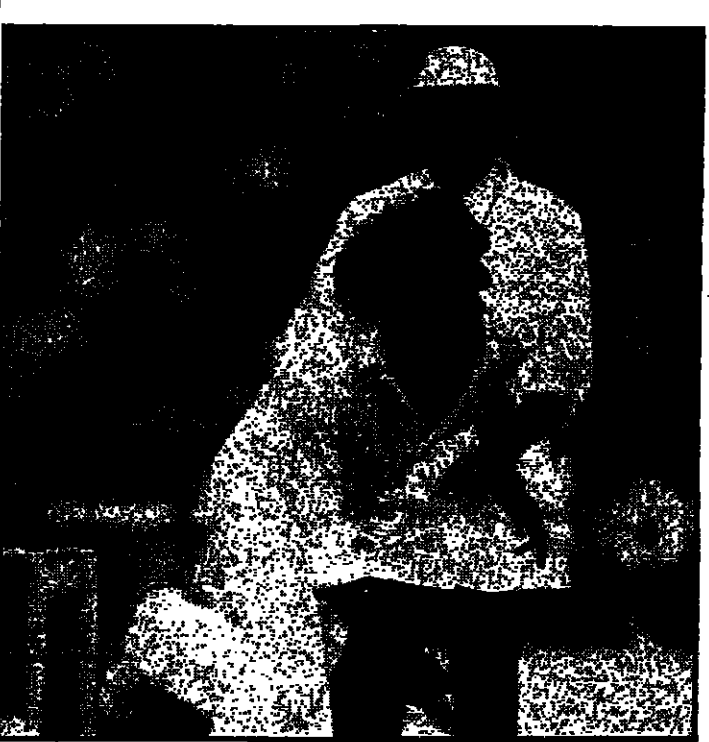
the chorus of criticism. "They (the bowlers) know the area in which to bowl and if they don't give the batsman a chance they deserve to be collared," he said.

Meanwhile, Pakistan are considering wholesale changes to their team in a last-ditch effort to make the WSC finals series — the world's richest cricket tournament.

Pakistan must beat Australia tomorrow and then hope the West Indies perform a similar feat on Thursday for them to have a chance of edging into the finals on a better run rate.

Realistic
Imran said his team would throw caution to the winds against Australia. "To be realistic, it is not easy for us to make the finals. We are obviously going to take chances and there will be changes to the team and to the batting order as well."

Both teams will be announced tomorrow morning although Australia are expected to make few changes from the side which defeated Pakistan by five wickets yesterday.



Imran: feels umpiring was poor

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